

SEVENTY-THIRD ANNUAL
GENERAL REPORT OF THE
THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY
1948

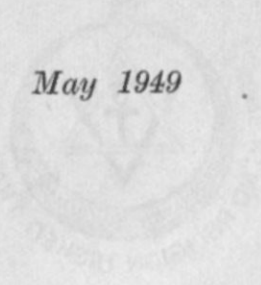


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THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL
GENERAL REPORT OF THE
THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY
1948

May 1949



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PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

SEVENTY-THIRD ANNUAL CONVENTION

Adyar, December 25, 1948

MY BROTHERS,

With deep affection I welcome you all to Adyar, the International Headquarters of our beloved Society. For are you not all my sisters and brothers, bound to me by our joint contribution of work for the welfare of Humanity, and bound for ever to those supreme Ideals which, creating in us increasing wonder and fascination, have been revealed to us by the true Founders of our Society, working through Their chosen agents, H. P. Blavatsky and H. S. Olcott, and through those who have trodden the ways of these two who "blazed the trail"? In our deep recognition of the Benediction which has from the beginning rested upon the Society from the Great Ones, its true and unseen Founders, let us express our gratitude to Them, and our pledge to serve Them so long as life shall last, as I make the Invocation to Them given to us by the Society's second President, our loved Annie Besant. Will you rise?

May Those who are the embodiment of Love Immortal, bless with Their protection the Society established to do Their will on earth; may They ever guard it by Their Power, inspire it with Their Wisdom, and energize it with Their Activity.

The real strength of any great movement is not to be measured by the numbers on its rolls. The number of members in a country may increase

or decrease due to many local causes; yet all the same, even when there is a decrease, the work done to spread the teachings of Theosophy may not have in any way slackened. Our Society throughout the world has however gained in membership since last I addressed you; the membership stands at 32,181, a gain of 545. In nearly every country there is a gain; it will interest you to know that the largest gain during the past twelve months is in Germany, where the number of new members is 261 more than the previous year. I will speak later regarding the work of some Sections.

For, at the moment, I want to make clear that while even today we have not more than 32,181 members paying dues (we have yet to receive the numbers from the countries behind the Russian "iron curtain," and from two other Sections), the work done by Theosophists throughout the world is greater in effectiveness than is represented by their numbers. First, there are many organizations, not calling themselves Theosophical, which yet are disseminating ideas which were first put out to the world by the Theosophical Society, its Lodges and through Theosophical literature. We have in fact theosophized the trend of several movements, which have originated from small Theosophical groups branching out from the Parent Society (to employ a term used by the

Masters). What is important for the welfare of mankind is, not that our Society should grow, but that some at least of our ideas may be disseminated more and more, to influence the lives of thousands who do not feel drawn to admire the magnificent sweep of the vast vision of Life which alone deserves the name "Theosophical".

One strange fact—strange to all of us here present—is that many a man and woman will attend our meetings constantly, read our literature, sometimes also help with monetary contributions, but will not join the Society. They do not respond to the supreme ideal presented to them of trying to "lift a little of the heavy karma of the world," and to give their "aid to the few strong hands that hold back the powers of darkness from obtaining complete victory". There are some countries where it has not been the custom to join organizations; here in India, when the Society began its work in 1875, probably the only organizations, apart from literary associations, to ask people to join them and help were the Arya Samāj and the Brahmo Samāj. Since those early days, the idea of joining associations for philanthropic purposes is widespread in India. The idea of joining associations is looked upon with mistrust, especially in France, Italy, Spain, Portugal, and other countries with Roman Catholic influence. Those interested in Theosophy in these countries will read and study, but will ask, "Why join your Society? What shall I let myself in for?"

I recall here an illuminating comment by the late William James of Harvard in his work, *Some Varieties of Religious Experience*. He notes that men are of two types, whom he terms the "common person" and the "psychopathic man"; concerning any "vexed question" the common person's attitude is, "What shall I think of it?", whereas that of the psychopathic man,

who not only thinks but who is also charged with feeling, is, "What must I do about it?" James then goes on to quote from Dr. Besant's well-known *Autobiography*—he calls her "that high-souled woman"—the following passage:

"Plenty of people wish well to any good cause, but very few care to exert themselves to help it, and still fewer will risk anything in its support. 'Some one ought to do it, but why should I?' is the ever re-echoed phrase of weak-kneed amiability. 'Some one ought to do it, so why not I?' is the cry of some earnest servant of man, eagerly springing forward to face some perilous duty. Between these two sentences lie whole centuries of moral evolution."

James then observes: "True enough! and between these two sentences lie also the different destinies of the ordinary sluggard and the psychopathic man." We have in this analysis of mankind why a certain type will read Theosophy and attend meetings, but will not join the Society as a member and help in its work of philanthropy. The mind is there well enough; but a part of the individual's nature is still numb; when touched, it gives no response. The feeling that is now lacking will be grown by him in the course of future incarnations—Karma will attend to that—and he will then be not only an inquirer into the things of God, but will also have become a philanthropist, a lover of men.

Among the National Societies that of India still shows the largest membership, 7,364; next comes the United States with 4,031. The third is England with 3,691. But if the word England means as usual, outside of that country, all that is termed Britain, meaning England, Scotland and Wales, the membership of these three National Societies, which once used to be one

"British Section," will be 4,255, giving England the second place on our roll. France comes fourth with 2,015.

The number in India is the highest that has ever been, with a nett gain of 136. It should be in India, considering her vast population, not 7,364 but 73,640. But even already, with 7,364, the work is difficult to organize efficiently; the country has been divided into 14 autonomous Federations which retain for their local work half of the annual dues of the members, sending on to the central Headquarters at Benares only the other half. The United States and England where Lodges are in Federations do not have this division of annual dues. This results in a situation that, while the Federations may flourish, there is little at Benares Headquarters to help those parts of the country where the Lodges are not federated or have little money to develop their work. The sending out of qualified lecturers from Benares Headquarters to help weak Lodges or to open out new territory is thus crippled. No one has found as yet a solution to this difficult internal problem of the Indian Section.

Since the coming into being of the new country of Pakistan, all Pakistan Lodges hitherto part of the Theosophical Society in India are now part of the Theosophical Society in Pakistan. There are not seven Lodges required to form a National Society as yet; till then Mr. Jamshed Nusserwanjee has been appointed the Presidential Agent.

One of the most satisfactory elements in our work is the revival of the Theosophical Movement in Germany. During the Hitler regime, no work, of course, was possible. When the War ended with the occupation by the British and Americans of certain zones of the West, work began once more, particularly in Hamburg. Quickly Lodges were revived and the National Society in Germany began its work once more. The development has been greatly

helped by the first Convention since the War, held in Hamburg on July 27-31 last. I made an application to the Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the British Government in London to permit the entry into Germany of certain helpers from Britain and from Holland, and with the support of two old members, once General Secretaries, Dr. L. Haden Guest and Mr. Peter Freeman, both now Members of Parliament in the Labour Party, permission was obtained for the entry into Hamburg of Mr. J. E. van Dissel, Secretary of the European Federation of National Societies, Mrs. Doris Groves, General Secretary for England, Prof. J. N. van der Ley, General Secretary for Holland, and Mr. J. Kruisheer also of Holland. Except Mrs. Groves, the others could speak German well, and a most enthusiastic Convention was held with delegates from Lodges in British and American Zones. The Convention was specially delighted with the presence of and the help given by Captain Northam of the American Military Government, who came to Convention. His address made a deep impression on the members. Special thanks were given for the "rich gift of food from the American Section, sent for the special purpose of providing opulent meals to all the members at a near-by hotel where the meetings had been held. Our Theosophical Society is really a marvellous unity." Members living in the Russian zone cannot meet as Lodges. They have to remain "unattached members" of the German Section.

During several years before the war, in Germany especially, but also to a large extent in Italy, Hitler and Mussolini discouraged all contact, even cultural, with foreign nations. Internationalism was definitely barred, much to the loss, needless to say, of all people of real culture in Germany and Italy. Now that the work has begun again in Germany, the members

will be able to take part in full measure in the international spirit of our Society. This has been specially helped by the financial assistance given by the European Federation so that seven German members could attend the Theosophical Workers' Week at Mariefred, in Sweden. It was hoped that 24 would attend, but the usual passport and other difficulties prevented the larger number from going. Those who returned from the great gathering in Sweden are charged with deep enthusiasm to carry on the work in Germany once more.

I am very glad to state that the work has begun in Czechoslovakia under the direction of Mr. Václav Cimr, once a General Secretary of the Section. There is no interference in the reorganization of the work.

A most noteworthy chapter in our work is the strength of the Young Theosophists in several countries. There has been since 1935 a World Federation for Young Theosophists, whose President is Rukmini Devi Arundale. The Federation in India celebrates this year its 25th Anniversary. In some countries the work has somewhat lingered, but in others the Young Theosophists are coming forward with enthusiasm to work along their chosen ways. This is especially the case in India and in Holland. There are groups of Young Theosophists in many countries which I will not enumerate here, but which will be mentioned in the fuller Report sent to all General Secretaries.

It will interest you all to know that we have still one living link with H.P.B. For nearly 20 years we have been sending money to two of H.P.B.'s nieces in Prague. One niece has died, but the second is still living, and in spite of various financial restrictions we have succeeded in sending her regularly the pension allocated to her by the General Council of the Society of £60 a year in quarterly instalments.

A noteworthy event for the work in the United States is the visit to that country of Mr. N. Sri Ram and Rukmini Devi. The former went at my instance specially to get into touch with members of the Esoteric School, and so his expenses of travel to the United States and back were met by that School. He gave addresses to Lodges and lectures to the public on Theosophy in each city visited in the United States, Canada and Cuba, and they were 49. Rukmini Devi received an invitation from the American Section, and so it was they who arranged for her journey. The two messengers from India have represented two aspects of what India has to offer to the world. I will not dwell upon the valuable work which they have done, except to say that the members in the United States and Cuba have written to me with the warmest admiration of Mr. N. Sri Ram's presentation of Theosophical ideals, and similarly many letters have come full of enthusiasm concerning the work done by Rukmini Devi. After the tragic events in the Punjab, it was necessary to show, particularly to the people of United States, that the ancient spiritual vigour of India still continues undiminished.

It is rarely that more than a brief mention is made in a Presidential Address of the work of the Adyar Library. The Adyar Library was the great dream of Colonel Olcott to expand the work of the Society in the field of Comparative Religion, our Second Object. Little by little, under various Directors of the Library, and especially under the present Director, Dr. G. Srinivasamurti, a most competent Sanskrit scholar, assisted by Dr. C. Kunhan Raja, Lecturer in Sanskrit in the University of Madras, the work has forged ahead during the last few years. Last year the Library celebrated its 60th Anniversary in a great function. But for members throughout the world, the Adyar Library is apt to remain a

mere name. It is not that to me, as I am myself something of an oriental scholar (at least I was one once, but I have chosen instead the more congenial path of Plato). The Adyar Library has now over 15,000 palm-leaf and paper manuscripts and transcripts. Text after text of priceless Sanskrit works have been published, and some translated, and the latest is No. 65 of the publications. It is under the auspices of the Adyar Library that there were published the four volumes of *Where Theosophy and Science Meet*, edited by Professor D. D. Kanga, a work received with warm approval by Theosophical students all over the world, and which has been re-edited and is being reprinted in a second edition.

How valuable is the work of the Library will be seen by the many testimonials to its work from various parts of the world, but among them all I select one from Dr. C. R. Reddy, the Vice-Chancellor of Andhra University, one who has an unusual vision of what education should really become. A scholar himself, he can therefore appreciate the magnificent work done by the Adyar Library. The following is what Dr. Reddy said when he presided over the 60th Anniversary of the Library, which he termed "this unique foundation":

"This is no ordinary Library. There are libraries and libraries. I myself am connected with some. . . But there are other libraries of the research order, the order of discovery, invention, propagation of noble ideals in the service of humanity, which are not so much a collection of books as a well-correlated collocation of ideas and ideals. The Adyar Library is one of the greatest of this higher order in the world. . . As Col. Olcott desired it to be, it is an organ of the Theosophical Society, intimately and indissolubly connected with the

work of Universal Brotherhood by means, amongst other ways, of cultural understanding between races and nations. The Library is not an appendix to the Society; it is an agent, an instrument, an organ of the Society. I cannot conceive of the Society being at its best without the Library also growing along with it, developing and in every manner possible helping on the work of its great universal mission."

"For many many years past I have been interested in the idea of an Institute of Indology. . . This idea is already there in embryo, if I may say so, in the organization of this Society. It has to be developed in the manner thought of by Col. Olcott and desired by lovers of culture and, more especially, by all those whether Theosophists or not, who want to bring about a closer mutual understanding in matters spiritual, the things that count most in the fashioning and moulding of our lives, between all peoples of the world."

The General Council of the Society, knowing the valuable nature of the work of the Library, donates out of the Society's funds 7,000 rupees a year in order to meet the costs of the Library, for the Library has several Pundits examining and collating manuscripts and copying them to be sent to other institutions. At the moment, the Library rooms are very badly crowded. The Library needs additional buildings but has not enough in its Building Fund for a new building in these days of high costs. I desire to give my testimony to the magnificent work done by the Library, for its work raises to a high level the general work of the whole Theosophical Society. In the field of religion, culture, scholarship, and especially Indian scholarship, all great and essential departments of our Theosophical work, the Adyar Library has

already indicated in what manner the Second Object of the Society should be developed to promote Universal Brotherhood.

This month there has gone to the great Peace one of our best workers and one who was closely associated with Adyar. Miss Mary K. Neff of Akron Lodge, U. S. A., joined the Society forty years ago, and when she came to India she worked for a while at the Theosophical School in Benares, and later as Principal of a Muhammadan School in Lahore, for which post she learned Urdu, both the language and the script. Later she entered the Theosophical field as a lecturer in India, in her own country, and in Australia and New Zealand. She was called to Adyar for a special work, and on arrival I asked Dr. Besant to entrust to her the arduous task of going through the Archives of the Society in my charge. These Archives go back to correspondence of H.P.B. and Colonel Olcott from the year 1875, and one specially prized section of the Archives are the *Scrap Books* which H.P.B. compiled, pasting cuttings from newspapers, with comments, often humorous and not infrequently sarcastic. This work took Miss Neff two years.

It was during this period that she did a most valuable work in connection with *The Mahatma Letters to A. P. Sinnett*. As is mentioned three times in Letters of the Master K. H., both He and the Master M. intimated that They would never consent to the publication of the Letters, except those parts authorized by Them to be sent to a selected band of students. It is this authorized section which I issued as *The Early Teachings of the Masters*, a month before the volume of Mr. A. T. Barker was issued, the *Mahatma Letters*. These *Mahatma Letters* are not in proper chronological order. Miss Neff, having been able to consult the year by year Diaries of Colonel Olcott, was able to establish the correct

chronological order of the Letters, and the correct list was sent to Mr. Barker, who acknowledged the list but replied that he could not re-arrange the Letters as the book had already been made into stereotyped plates.

After the study of the archives Miss Neff produced a large volume on the life and activities of H. P. B. under the title *Personal Memoirs of H. P. Blavatsky*. She was compiling during her stay in Australia additional material which she found in the public library in Melbourne dealing with more incidents in H.P.B.'s life. The manuscript of the second volume, at which she was working till the end, will no doubt be given presently to our Society and in the course of time I hope to publish it. From the beginning to the end Mary Neff remained a true and faithful worker in our cause. May Light Perpetual shine upon her.

I desire to speak to you briefly about my principal helpers. All the heads of the ten departments are my helpers, and I wish I could speak of them all. But I must restrict myself to three. First, Miss Helen Zahara, the Recording Secretary. She had gained a diploma in Accountancy in Australia and had already an office job, when at my invitation she left it and came to Adyar. A Recording Secretary is the link for correspondence, reports, applications for Lodge charters, the dispatch and receipt of communications from and to the General Council which the National Societies have with the Headquarters at Adyar. Apart from all the constant heavy work which all that implies, she is also the link with the President for all the residents. They send their grievances to her first, and she brings them to me, and if they come to me first I send them to her to be checked and investigated. And everything has to be filed by her for record. Every morning Miss Zahara sees me with papers of estimates, requests, grievances, sometimes helpful suggestions. She is

also the Treasurer of the World Federation of Young Theosophists. I want to thank her for her devoted services and for smoothing my way among the tangle of requests and grievances.

Next higher in office is the Treasurer. He is Mr. C. D. T. Shores, who as soon as he retired from a most responsible post in the oldest and largest navigation company linking India and Britain, came to Adyar offering his services. Brother Panda Baijnath, in spite of his age, came from Benares to act as Treasurer at my urgent request when I became President; but only for a year. I was most thankful that, when the year came to an end, Brother Shores was ready to take over. You need but look at the accounts published yearly of the finances of the Society and how they are administered, to see that the Society's Treasurer needs to have a clear head. Every pie or farthing, cent or centesimo, of the Society's money must be found somewhere in the Treasurer's ledgers as coming in or going out. He does not see me every day—he does not need to, nor I him. But during office hours he is continually getting chits from me stamped "Treasurer," occasionally a cheque from a donor, but mostly for information. All estimates for expenditures go to him first, then they are brought to me by the Recording Secretary; if the work is urgent, it is begun over the instructions of the Treasurer and the President. But at the next meeting of the Executive Committee, what we two have sanctioned must be sanctioned by the Executive. I do not care to contemplate what would happen to our two purses if the Executive should refuse its sanction. Most cordially I thank Brother Shores, a friend of many years' standing.

But I owe most, since I became President, to the Vice-President, Mr. Sidney A. Cook. He had filled a high executive post as Vice-President and principal internal officer of the Diamond

T. Motor Car Company of Chicago, the seventh largest truck-making company of the United States. Mr. Cook is a trained and expert accountant, and is used to think, as an officer of his company, in terms of millions of dollars. He has a brain for accounts and is well versed with the latest methods of administration. I have passed on to him the supervision of several aspects of our Adyar administration. We are facing rising costs of operation, we have had demands for increases in wages and salaries; each problem needs careful examination to do justice to the employees as also to the Society. I should personally need, did I not have Mr. Cook at Adyar, to dig myself in slowly into each problem, appointing committee after committee, to report after much delay. The Vice-President has the capacity to tackle job after job at once in our departments, see quickly what *is*, what *hadn't ought to be*, and what *ought to be*, and then summarize it all for me for presentation to the Executive Committee for decision. If he enjoys my lectures, I enjoy his "lay-outs" and "blueprints". To have an American, trained in business, at Adyar, is like having a breath of ozone to vivify our Indian air at Adyar, where like most things in India we have gone along the old ruts. But the world's pressure on Adyar is becoming stronger and stronger, and I am thankful that Mr. Sidney Cook is here by my side to help me to give the necessary acceptance or resistance. He was during 14 years the General Secretary of the American Section; he knows the work "from the inside". While the Society is charged with high philanthropic idealism, it needs to have its feet upon earth, especially as regards its financial needs and commitments. In the realm of our finances, my Presidential brain is clearer because of Mr. Sidney Cook's contribution to the Society's work.

Since I began lecturing on Theosophy 46 years ago, I have rarely brought in the names of the Masters of the Wisdom as I expounded our great Philosophy. For the Philosophy stands on its own as an illuminating light, apart from the existence or not of the Masters. Nevertheless, anyone who reads of the beginnings of our Society can see that H.P.B., who originated the Society, and H. S. Olcott who stood by her side assisting her in a joint task, were both inspired in the devotion which they gave to the Society because they knew of the existence of the Masters, and knew that they were also both pupils of one of Them, who gave them directions occasionally. Yet, since the Society must be free of all dogmas, including a belief in the Masters, to believe or not to believe in Their existence has been left to each individual member's convictions. The existence of the Masters is not proclaimed in the Three Objects of the Society. I have tried in my Theosophical exposition to present Theosophy as a great Philosophy, apart from all Personalities, however high and wonderful they may be.

But this does not mean that I do not believe in Them and do not know of Them. I know, therefore I believe. Exactly 60 years ago, when I was a boy of thirteen, I knew of the existence of two particular Masters; the belief in Masters of the Wisdom is easy to every Buddhist, for the Arhat tradition has not completely faded away from the Buddhist land of Ceylon where I was born in this incarnation. But I have carefully tried not to impose my knowledge on others. While that knowledge has been as the life-blood of my being, it is not necessary for others in their discovery of our Theosophical Philosophy.

All this personal statement is by way of an introduction to the last concluding topic of my address. We know

that during some five years, from 1880 to 1884, Letters from the Masters were received by A. P. Sinnett and others, giving a glimpse of the occult teachings of the Adepts. The two Adepts specially concerned, who gave Their teachings to us, were forbidden by occult rules to reveal what They did until permission had been given to Them by a higher Adept, in whose department lay such a public revelation of occult teachings. This Adept is known as the Mahâ Chohan—the *great* Chohan, under whose direction all lesser than He work at Their several plans.

In 1881 the Mahâ Chohan communicated directly His views concerning the Theosophical Society, concerning its future, concerning what the Society should not do. The view of the Mahâ Chohan, given to the Master K.H., was passed on by the Master to Mr. Sinnett, and is known as the "Letter of the Mahâ Chohan". It is in that proclamation of the great Adept—"to whose insight the future lies like an open page," as wrote the Master K.H. to Colonel Olcott in 1883—that we find the prophecy as to the Society's future, that its future is to be "the corner-stone, the foundation of the future religions of humanity". The Adept uses "religions" in the plural, so that in the course of the many centuries before the Society as it grows, more than one religion or world faith shall come out of its bosom.

But for the Society to fulfil this great role before it, its aim must be first of all to lessen for all men the fearful "struggle for existence". This struggle, due to the increase of craving beyond man's true needs, has become more and more desperately acute with the growth of modern civilization. All inventions, intended to make life easier and more economical for men, have brought in their train a heightened craving for "life, more life," with no real knowledge in what true "life,"

consists for man. It is for us Theosophists to proclaim what is the intrinsic standard of life. It is for us, declares the Mahâ Chohan, to give,

"the right and logical explanations on the subject of the problems of the great dual principles—right and wrong, good and evil, liberty and despotism, pain and pleasure, egotism and altruism."

It is when we give the true explanations that, says the Adept about Theosophy,

"then the world will be quick to confess that must be the true philosophy, the true religion, the true light, which gives truth and nothing but the truth."

But in all the 73 years of our work as a Society, we have not as yet clearly formulated the "consistent solution" to which the Adept refers. In what directions the solutions lie are indicated here and there in H.P.B.'s writings, in the ethical teachings given by Annie Besant, C. W. Leadbeater, G. S. Arundale and others. Much has been explained by them as to the intricacies of the Plan of God which directs evolution. But the average inquirer has to

search long and extensively for a "consistent solution" offered by us regarding liberty and despotism, regarding true morality as distinct from traditional and conventional morality, regarding in what consists intrinsic goodness, the antithesis of intrinsic evil.

Much, much, therefore remains to be done, if we are to convince the world that only in Universal Brotherhood, seen in the light of "*truth* and nothing but the truth," will men find the lessening of the murderous struggle for existence which plunges the world into war after war, and into ever-increasing misery.

Here lies the work before us, next year, the year after, and in all the years to come. This is the task of the School of the Wisdom which we shall start here at Adyar—if all goes well—on November 17 of next year.

Inspired and helped by the unseen Founders of the Society, under the benevolent supervision and benediction of the great Adept, the Mahâ Chohan, I believe we and our successors will achieve the aim set for us, which is to give "*truth* and nothing but the truth," and so lessen a little the heavy Karma of the world, and lead men to an era of true peace and true happiness.

C. JINARĀJADĀSA

THE TREASURER'S REPORT

The Society's Income and Expense Account for the year ended 30th September, 1948 is shown to have closed with a surplus of Rs. 508-10-11.

The Balance Sheet and Income and Expense Account are presented this year in more modern form, related items being shown in juxtaposition and classification more readily to convey the significance of the statements. Certain adjustments have been made in the accounts of which the nature and need are briefly as follows.

The period of heavy deficits began in 1927 and by the end of the war in 1945 these exceeded Rs. 1,00,000/-, an amount which so depleted the Society's working capital that its Investments and Cash but slightly exceeded the total of the Funds for which it is responsible. The approach of this dangerous condition was brought to attention by another Treasurer in an earlier report. To avoid further depletion of capital due to the high cost of war-deferred maintenance a scientifically and conservatively computed Reserve of Rs. 85,925/- has now been created to absorb the amounts by which annual maintenance charges since the war's end exceed the average of the ten pre-war years, making due allowance for the higher costs of labour and material since the war. This Reserve has been drawn from the A.B.C. Fund, as was suggested might be necessary at the time of its establishment. No part of the funds collected for or donated to the A.B.C. Fund, however, has been utilized for this Reserve. It has all been covered by the various other funds previously merged into the A.B.C. Fund. Of

this Reserve Rs. 58,350 remains unused at the end of the current year to complete the war-deferred maintenance programme. All donations to the A.B.C. Fund have been invested and this policy, announced at the inception of the Fund, will be continued for the development of annual income.

An analysis of our Immovable Properties Account (Land and Buildings) has resulted in the addition of all structures not previously shown therein and the development of an adequate Depreciation Reserve based upon a higher depreciation rate more appropriate to the properties and now applied to the structures only.

The budget figures for expenses during the past year have been exceeded, because of general increases in salaries throughout the Estate and the added costs of all supplies and works.

The expenditure on Repairs and Renewals, inclusive of war-deferred maintenance repairs, was Rs. 47,886-11-3 or Rs. 17,886/- in excess of the budget estimate; but of this total amount a sum of Rs. 17,611 is chargeable against the War-deferred Maintenance Reserve Account.

In the Garden, expenses have also been higher than anticipated, but, as a result of a good fruit harvest the budgetted deficit has been reduced by Rs. 660/-

The Taxes paid to the Corporation of Madras are also heavier and exceed the budget by Rs. 1,851, due to a general increase of the Property Tax. Following our appeal to the Corporation Council for special consideration the Government of Madras Province has approved the resolution of the

Council to grant us permanent exemption in respect of certain of the buildings on the Estate and partial exemption on others; but even so, the Society still has to pay an annual property tax of about Rs. 10,000/-

There has been a somewhat heavy increase in the cost of running Lead-beater Chambers and the account shows a deficit of Rs. 5,577; higher servants' wages and a general increase in the cost of all food stuffs are the main contributory factors. Consideration is being given to finding means of reducing this deficit next year.

Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund: At the commencement of the year, this account was designated the Besant Adyar World (Commemorative) Fund when it carried a balance of Rs. 1,22,370-15-11. Into this fund, renamed as above, The Headquarters Endowment Fund, and other miscellaneous funds have now been merged, so that after allocating a sum of Rs. 85,925/- to the War-deferred Maintenance reserve account, the total on 30-9-'48 stood at Rs. 3,43,426-7-2 including the year's collections. During the two years that the Fund has been open over 1/6 of the target figure has been reached. As will be remembered it was hoped that the target would be reached in 7 years and the generous support of the members is again appealed for.

Allocations :

			Rs.
A.B.C. Fund	...	...	10,000
Adyar Library	...	...	2,000
Olcott Harijan Free Schools	...	...	1,000
Besant Theosophical School	...	...	1,000
Welfare Fund	...	...	1,000
Adyar Amphitheatre Fund	...	...	2,000
			<hr/>
			17,000
Sum made available to the T.S.	...	...	26,340
			<hr/>
			43,340

The Faithful Service Fund.—From the opening credit of Rs. 31,139-8-3, Rs. 10,492-8-2 has been expended during the year as detailed in the appended account. Mention must be made of a generous donation of Rs. 4,000/- to the Fund from the Misses Helen and Kathleen Veale, and of the gift of their house at Kotagiri, estimated to be valued at Rs. 7,300/-, which gift has now been transferred from the T.S. Capital Fund in which it figured earlier. Thus the year closes with a credit balance of Rs. 33,228-3-4.

Special Funds: The list includes a new name in the Sri Jay Narain Trust. This Trust has devolved upon the President following the death of its founding Trustee. The Fund is mainly in fixed deposits in various banks.

Investments.—Of the cash available for investment Rs. 70,000/- has been invested in 3% Conversion Loan. The Balance Sheet also shows Rs. 6,200/- 3% Government Promissory Notes, Rs. 100/- 4%, Rs. 100/- 3% United Provinces Loan and Rs. 2,500/- 4½% Government of India Loan, which were contributed as donations to the A.B.C. Fund.

Donations.—The Adyar Day collections from U.S.A. amounted to Rs. 40,000/- which with other donations brought the total for allocation to Rs. 43,340-7-2.

It is the Adyar Day collections which have made it possible to avoid substantial deficits in recent years, and it is earnestly hoped that such munificent contributions will continue until the growth of the A.B.C. Fund regularly provides income in their stead.

The Bhojanasala has worked within its margin of expense.

The Engineering Department has done much work during the year and the accounts show only a small profit of Rs. 738-7-11 due in part to the reduction in the rate of overhead charge on bills to 12½%.

T. S. Laundry.—The loss on this Department is much less than in the previous year. It is hoped that next year the expense and revenue will be found to balance.

Vasanta Press.—The small profit shown does not reflect the excellent management of this department. The aim of the department is to spread Theosophy by pricing its publications within the reach of all, which policy inevitably limits earnings.

Watch and Ward expenses have been within the estimate but during the coming year it is expected that an additional Rs. 2,000/- will be

needed to cover the cost of providing greater security throughout the Society's Estate.

Fees and Dues.—There is a slight reduction compared with the estimate consequent upon the dues from some Sections not yet having been received.

Water Supply.—During the year under review a new well has been sunk to augment the water supply in seasons of insufficient rainfall. The cost of this work has been partly met this year and is reflected in the Immovable Property Account on the Balance Sheet but the cost of the pump and its installation will figure in the accounts for 1949.

The Budget Figures for 1948-49 are based upon the expenses of the year just closed. They show an expected deficit of Rs. 29,050 and it is hoped that members throughout the World will continue their generous support and so enable the Society to meet the expense and the continuing renovation and improvement of its International Headquarters and the work of the Society there carried on.

C. D. SHORES,

Hony. Treasurer.

THE T. S. INCOME AND EXPENSE ACCOUNT

EXPENSE											
						Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
To Establishment—Salaries and Wages	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16,809	3	1
.. Repairs and Renewals	...	...	...	...	...	47,886	11	3			
<i>Less</i> Amount Chargeable to War-deferred Maintenance Reserve						17,611	0	0			
									30,275	11	3
.. Light and Water	...	...	...	...	...				2,410	10	0
.. Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...				3,884	5	11
.. Postages, Telegrams and Telephone	...	...	...	...	...				2,467	1	3
.. Printing and Stationery	...	...	...	...	...				3,515	7	9
.. Taxes	...	...	...	...	...				12,851	9	7
.. Pensions	...	...	...	...	...				61	8	0
.. Convention Account (Travelling expenses)	...	...	...	...	...				945	15	0
.. Publications to General Secretaries	...	...	...	...	...				614	4	0
.. Museum and Archives	...	...	...	...	...				738	11	0
.. Departmental Results :											
	<i>Expenditure</i>		<i>Income</i>		<i>Net</i>						
	Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.					
Garden	29,988	10 7	23,646	15 2	— 6,341	11 5					
Watch and Ward	9,852	8 3			— 9,852	8 3					
Sanitation	3,378	8 3	1,239	0 0	— 2,139	8 3					
Dispensary	2,700	8 3	653	1 6	— 2,047	6 9					
Bhojanasala	13,092	1 11	12,509	0 0	— 583	1 11					
Leadbeater Chambers	20,232	5 3	14,655	6 11	— 5,576	14 4					
Laundry	8,408	13 8	7,596	1 6	— 812	12 2					
Engineering Department	1,09,536	15 4	1,10,295	7 3	+ 758	7 11					
Vasanta Press	84,368	11 11	86,177	3 0	+ 1,808	7 1					
	2,81,559	3 5	2,56,772	3 4	— 24,787	0 1			24,787	0	1
									99,361	6	11
.. Appropriations :											
To Adyar Library	...	...	...	...	5,000	0 0					
.. President's Travelling Fund	...	...	...	...	6,600	0 0			11,600	0	0
									1,10,961	6	11
.. Depreciation :											
On Immovable Property 2%	...	...	...	...	10,260	1 10					
.. Movable Property @ 7½%	...	...	...	...	2,110	11 8			12,370	13	6
									1,23,332	4	5
.. Excess of Income over Expense carried to Capital a/c											
					...	...			508	10	11
									1,23,840	15	4

ADYAR

24th December 1948

For The Theosophical Society,
C. D. SHORES,
Hony. Treasurer.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 1948

INCOME					Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
By Rent (including Leadbeater Chambers and Bhojanasala)	...	...	...	...	54,326	6	0	17,680	14	7
„ Fees and Dues	...	...	...	...	28,238	13	10	9,875	10	3
„ Interest earned	...	...	...	...	43,340	7	2	68,340	7	2
Less on Funds	...	...	...	...	17,000	0	0	7,130	0	0
„ Donations	...	...	...	...		
Less Allocations and Grants	...	...	...	...		
„ Administration Charges to Departments	...	...	...	...		
					1,23,840	15	4			

Examined and found correct.

V. SOUNDARARAJAN & Co.,

Registered Accountants.

BALANCE SHEET OF THE THEOSOPHICAL

CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES									
Capital									
General:									
				Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance at Oct. 1, 1947	...	...	...	5,29,104	11	0			
Adjustments due to changes in Property accounts and Reserves	...	...	...	1,01,757	9	1			
				6,30,862	4	1			
Less Property gift transferred	...	...	...	7,300	0	0			
				6,23,562	4	1			
Add Excess of Income over Expense	...	...	...	508	10	11			
							6,24,070	15	0
Departmental:									
Adyar Library	...	...	...	1,87,620	14	6			
Engineering Department	...	...	...	46,960	2	9			
Garden Department	...	...	...	9,956	10	8			
Vasanta Press	...	...	...	21,580	12	9	2,66,118	8	8
									8,90,189 7 8
Funds (see notes below)									
Of the Society Interest Bearing:									
Adyar Library Endowment Fund (a)	...	...	...	1,23,566	7	1			
Adyar Library Building Fund (b)	...	...	...	1,27,786	6	3			
Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund (c)	...	...	...	3,43,426	7	2			
Miscellaneous (a)	...	...	...	60,559	5	11			
do. (d)	...	...	...	13,265	8	4			
				6,68,604	2	9			
Of the Society Non Interest Bearing:									
President's Travelling Fund	44,160	13	8						
Pensions & Gratuities Fund	9,618	12	0						
				53,779	9	8			
							7,22,383	12	5
Of Others:									
Interest Bearing	...	...	...	65,285	2	0			
Non Interest Bearing	...	...	...	39,437	1	3			
							1,04,722	3	3
									8,27,105 15 8
Sundry Deposits	...	...	...						96,248 3 9
Sundry Creditors	...	...	...						1,061 2 6
Adyar Library:									
Miscellaneous Fund	...	...	...				2,356	5	3
Sundry Creditors	...	...	...				882	8	3
Gratuities Reserve	...	...	...				3,037	5	4
									6,276 2 10
Reserves:									
For War-deferred Maintenance	...	...	...				58,336	0	0
For Electric Line Reserve	...	...	...				4,000	0	0
									62,336 0 0
Notes.—(a) Capital and Interest available for specific purposes.									
(b) Interest available for general purposes.									
(c) Interest only available for general purposes.									
(d) Interest only available for specific purposes.									
									18,83,217 0 5

For The Theosophical Society,
C. D. SHORES,
Hony. Treasurer.

SOCIETY, ADYAR, AS ON 30TH SEPTEMBER 1948

PROPERTY AND ASSETS											
Immovable Property:						Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Lands at Adyar	...	...	1,93,857	13	0						
Buildings	...	...	3,22,364	6	4						
Balance at Oct. 1, 1947						5,16,222	3	4			
Additions during the year	...	...				11,009	11	9			
Properties not previously on books and miscellaneous adjustments	...	...				1,90,640	14	11			
						7,17,872	14	0			
Less Depreciation Reserve	...	...				1,83,987	11	3	5,33,885	2	9
Land in Sindh	...	...							10,000	0	0
Movable Properties Adyar:											
Balance at Oct. 1, 1947	...	...				25,078	1	2			
Additions during the year net	...	...				3,064	10	6			
						28,142	11	8			
Less depreciation	...	...				15,820	6	0	12,322	5	8
Investments at Cost:											
Government of India (Rs. 6,02,500) 2½% to 4%	...	...				5,98,508	15	3			
Madras Provincial Govt. (Rs. 1,16,400) 2½% to 3½%	...	...				1,16,577	12	5			
Municipality of Madras (Rs. 1,000) 4%	...	...				1,056	9	0			
United Kingdom 4%	...	...				1,77,046	4	1			
Surrender value of Life Insurance Policy (Rs. 30,000)	...	...				14,700	0	0			
Miscellaneous	...	...				6,774	8	3	9,14,664	1	0
Interest accrued on Investments...	...	...							6,827	14	1
Fees and Dues outstanding (since collected)	...	...							8,166	7	11
Sundry Debtors	...	...				41,624	7	3			
Less Rentals billed in advance	...	...				3,057	4	0	38,567	3	3
Departmental Assets:											
Electrical Installation less Depreciation	...	...							18,290	0	0
Tools, Implements, Utensils and Equipment—less Depreciation	...	...				12,085	3	3			
Printing, Machinery and Type—less Depreciation	...	...	8,716	6	9						
Advance on new Type	...	...	13,443	10	0						
						22,160	0	9			
Supplies on hand	...	...				49,861	14	0			
Accounts Receivable and Advances	...	...				7,252	0	0			
Cash	...	...				466	5	4			
Advance Rentals	...	...				183	0	0			
Standing Crops	...	...				5,720	10	4			
						97,729	1	8			
Adyar Library:											
Manuscripts and Books	...	...	1,44,272	2	6						
Furniture—less depreciation	...	...	9,538	11	0						
Stock of Publications	...	...	38,822	6	8						
Miscellaneous	...	...	205	5	10						
						1,92,838	10	0	2,90,567	11	8
Cash:											
Fixed Deposits	...	...				20,252	6	6			
In Madras Banks—Current Account	...	...				22,331	13	9			
In London Bank do.	...	...				3,874	13	10			
On hand	...	...				3,467	0	0	49,926	2	1
									18,83,217	0	5

Examined and found correct,
V. SOUNDARARAJAN, & CO.,
Registered Accountants.

THE FAITHFUL SERVICE FUND

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30-9-1948

DISBURSEMENTS

	Rs.	A.	P.
To Miss E. M. Amery @ Rs. 165/- p.m.	1,980	0	0
„ Misses Helen and Kathleen Veale @ Rs. 200/- p.m.	2,400	0	0
„ Dr. Anna Kamensky	734	14	2
„ Miss G. Watkin @ Rs. 178/- p.m. for 10 months	1,780	0	0
„ Madame P. Cazin @ Rs. 80/- p.m.	960	0	0
„ Mr. C. V. Shah @ Rs. 85/- p.m.	1,020	0	0
„ Mr. C. S. Trilokekar @ Rs. 50/- p.m.	600	0	0
„ Mr. L. Subramania Iyer @ Rs. 35/- p.m.	420	0	0
„ Contribution to the Clara Codd Pension Fund £25/-	336	10	0
„ Mr. Manjeri S. Rama Iyer @ Rs. 20/- p.m.	240	0	0
„ Money Order Commission, etc.	21	0	0
„ Balance carried over	33,228	3	4
	43,720	11	6

RECEIPTS

	Rs.	A.	P.
By Opening Balance ...	31,139	8	3
„ Donations, etc. ...	11,562	11	3
„ Rent from Manjeri House ...	240	0	0
„ Interest ...	778	8	0
	43,720	11	6

FEES AND DUES RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1948

					Rs.	A.	P.
The Theosophical Society in	U. S. A.,	\$1,905.39	1947-48	...	6,288	6	10
"	"	"	England, £313-6-2	1947-48	4,139	13	0
"	"	"	Holland, £102-12-6	1947	1,366	10	0
"	"	"	India, 1946-47	...	1,673	11	0
"	"	"	Sweden, £39-8-1	1947	523	7	0
"	"	"	Australia, £24-6-0	1947	322	10	0
"	"	"	Ireland, £3-6-4	1947-48	43	12	2
"	"	"	Wales, £9-6-0	1947-48	122	11	6
"	"	"	Scotland, £16-15-0	1947-48	222	8	9
"	"	"	Canada, 1947	Rs. 304-6-0			
"	"	"	1948	323-0-0			
					627	6	0
"	"	"	Mexico, £15-7-5	1947	202	13	2
"	"	"	South Africa, £18-6-10	1947	243	10	4
"	"	"	Colombia, \$20.00	1947	66	0	0
"	"	"	Costa Rica, \$45.00	1947	146	5	7
"	"	"	Portugal	...	78	12	4
"	"	"	Greece, £9-0-0	...	119	0	0
"	"	"	Indonesia	...	84	0	0
"	"	"	New Zealand, £32-10-9	1947	432	3	6
"	"	"	Brazil, 1947	...	209	13	0
"	"	"	Chile, 1947-48	...	97	15	2
Non Sectionalized Lodges and Headquarters dues from un-					669	5	3
attached members	...	...	...	...	17,680	14	7

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PRESIDENT'S TRAVELLING FUND

RECEIVED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1948

					Rs.	A.	P.
Mrs. Lorna Retief, Johannesburg	...	...	...	...	64	0	0
The T.S. in Scotland, £2-1-3	...	...	...	...	27	6	0
Mr. P. Ramakrishnayya, Cocanada	...	...	...	...	147	2	0
Sri Mohanlal Velji, Bombay	...	...	...	...	124	0	0
Mr. Suhrid Krishna Basu, Calcutta	...	...	...	...	5	0	0
Maharashtra Federation	...	...	...	...	100	0	0
Contribution from Headquarters	...	...	...	...	6,600	0	0
					7,067	8	0

THE T. S. HEADQUARTERS, ADYAR, BUDGET FOR 1948-49

EXPENDITURE	Budget for 1947-'48	Actuals for 1947-'48	Budget for 1948-'49	INCOME	Budget for 1947-'48	Actuals for 1947-'48	Budget for 1948-'49
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Establishment—Salaries and Wages	16,500	16,809	17,100	Rent Income ...	40,000	54,326	50,000
Repairs and Renewals	30,000	30,276	30,000	Conservancy Charges ...	1,000	1,239	1,270
Garden Expenses	26,500	29,989	26,500	Fees and Dues	20,000	17,681	18,000
Lighting and Water	2,500	2,411	3,500	Garden Income	19,500	23,647	19,500
Miscellaneous	3,500	3,884	4,000	Interest (Gross)	28,000	28,239	28,000
Watch and Ward	9,760	9,852	12,000	Administration Charges ...	7,130	7,130	7,130
Postages, Telegrams and Telephone	2,500	2,467	2,500	Donations		43,340	
Printing and Stationery	2,000	3,515	3,500			1,75,602	
Publications to General Secretaries	900	614	900	Special Departments :			
Sanitation Expenses	3,760	3,379	4,250	Vasanta Press	90,000	86,177	89,000
Taxes Account	11,000	12,852	11,000	Engineering Department ...	83,550	1,10,296	1,01,150
Pensions	100	62	100	Laundry	7,500	8,409	8,000
Interest on Funds and Accounts	12,000	9,875	11,000	Deficit to be made good by Donations	32,090		29,050
Donations to various Funds and Accounts		17,000					
Convention Travelling Expenses	1,000	946					
Convention 1948			2,000				
Contributions :							
Adyar Library	5,000	5,000	5,000				
President's Travelling Fund	6,600	6,600	3,300				
Dispensary	2,800	2,048	2,600				
Museum and Archives	150	739	500				
Depreciation :	8,000	12,371	8,000				
Bhojanasala deficit	650	583	700				
Leadbeater Chambers deficit	2,500	5,578	4,500				
Laundry Deficit		812					
		1,77,662					
Special Departments :							
Vasanta Press	90,000	84,368	89,000				
Engineering Department... ..	83,550	1,09,537	1,01,150				
Laundry	7,500	8,409	8,000				
Surplus		508					
	3,28,770	3,80,484	3,51,100		3,28,770	3,80,484	3,51,100

For The Theosophical Society,

C. D. SHORES,

Hony. Treasurer.

THE ADYAR LIBRARY

BUDGET ESTIMATE FOR PUBLICATIONS 1948-49

	Rs.		Rs.
To Stock on hand ...	38,822	By Sales ...	4,000
„ Cost of Publications ...	8,000	„ Stock on hand ...	43,822
„ Balance transferred to Income Account ...	1,000		
	47,822		47,822

BUDGET ESTIMATE—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE
ACCOUNT FOR 1948-49

EXPENDITURE	Actuals for 1947-'48 Rs.	Budget for 1948-'49 Rs.	INCOME	Actuals for 1947-'48 Rs.	Budget for 1948-'49 Rs.
To Salaries and Pensions ...	15,609	16,200	By T.S. Contribution ...	5,000	5,000
„ Repairs, Lighting and Conservancy ...	755	600	„ Adyar Day Allocation ...	2,000	2,500
„ Postages ...	326	300	„ Interest on Endowments ...	6,282	6,300
„ Printing and Stationery ...	500	500	„ Transfer from Publications Account ...	967	1,000
„ Fire Insurance ...	150	150			14,800
„ Contingencies and Miscellaneous ...	100	100	„ Deficit to be made good by Donations ...		5,850
„ Copying and Comparing Charges ...	755	700			
	18,195	18,550			
„ Reserve for Gratuities Rs. 1,350.	663				
„ Reserve for Depreciation Rs. 250.	244				
	1,600	1,600			
„ Capital Expenditure: Books and Manuscripts Rs. 1,200	435	500			
		20,650			20,650

G. SRINIVASA MURTI,
Hony. Director.

PUBLICATIONS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1948

	Rs.	A.	P.		Rs.	A.	P.
To Stock on hand ...				By Sales ...	3,801	15	5
„ Cost of Publications of the year ... 9,111 11 3				Stock on hand (year end):			
Less Credit ... 900 0 0				Publications of the year ... 5,377 10 8	5,377	10	8
	8,211	11	3	Publications of previous years. ... 33,444 12 0			
„ Balance transferred to Income Account ...	967	14	10		38,822	6	8
	9,179	10	1		9,179	10	1

Examined and found correct,
V. SOUNDARARAJAN & CO.,
Registered Accountants.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT OF THE

EXPENDITURE

					Rs.	A.	P.
To Salaries and Pensions	...	...	...	...	15,609	7	0
„ Copying and Comparing	...	...	...	...	755	3	6
„ Repairs, Lighting and Conservancy	...	...	...	...	755	2	3
„ Postages	...	...	...	...	325	13	6
„ Diamond Jubilee Publications	...	...	...	...	1,013	4	9
„ Printing and Stationery	...	...	...	...	676	13	11
„ Fire Insurance	...	...	...	...	140	10	6
„ Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	120	15	6

Total Expenses 19,397 6 11

Rs. A. P.

„ Reserve for Gratuities	...	...	663	0	0
for Depreciation	...	...	244	10	0

907 10 0

„ Capital Expenditure					
Manuscripts and Books	...	...	435	3	5

„ Allocations					
to the Endowment Fund	Rs.	A.	P.		
	791	12	0		

to the Visitors Charity and General Fund	1,081	4	0		
--	-------	---	---	--	--

1,873 0 0

3,215 13 5

22,613 4 4

ADYAR LIBRARY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30-9-48

INCOME

					Rs.	A.	P.
By T.S. Contribution	...	...	...	...	5,000	0	0
„ Adyar Day Allocation	...	...	...	...	2,000	0	0
„ Miscellaneous Donations	...	...	...	...	855	1	0
„ „ „ (Box)	...	...	...	...	1,081	4	0
„ Interest on Endowment	...	...	...	...	6,281	11	9
„ Copying Charges	...	...	...	...	249	15	0
„ Donation for Diamond Jubilee Publication	...	...	...	...	1,000	0	0
„ Income from Publications Account	...	...	...	...	967	14	10
Total Income					17,435	14	7
„ Balance by deduction from Endowment Fund	...	...	...	...	576	9	0
„ „ „ Publications Fund	...	...	...	...	4,600	12	9

ADYAR LIBRARY AS ON 30-9-48

ASSETS				Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
<i>Manuscripts and Books :</i>									
Per previous valuation	...	...		75,000	0	0			
Additions since by purchase (contra)	...	...		69,272	2	6			
<i>Furniture :</i>							1,44,272	2	6
Original Value	...	...		10,847	14	0			
Less Depreciation Reserve	...	...		1,309	3	0			
							9,538	11	0
<i>Stock of Publications on hand :</i>									
Previous years (contra)	...	...		33,444	12	0			
Current year	...	...		5,377	10	8			
							38,822	6	8
Suspense Advance	...	...	...				182	14	7
Advances	...	...	...				2	7	3
Cash on hand	...	...	...				20	0	0
Balance with the T.S.	...	...	...				2,52,411	4	8

 4,45,249 14 8

Examined and found correct.

V. SOUNDARARAJAN & Co.,

Registered Accountants.

REPORTS OF THE GENERAL
SECRETARIES OF THE
NATIONAL SOCIETIES

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The Theosophical Society in America continues to extend aid to the rehabilitation work in the European Sections by contributing food and parcels of clothing. It is recommended that this assistance to our European brothers should be continued until E. R. P. supplies are being widely distributed and crops are better established.

The National President attended the annual meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society at Benares in December 1947, where several actions were taken that are of importance. First among these it is recommended that Lodges be informed regarding the work of the United Nations, and that at least once a year each Lodge hold a meeting to spread that information publicly. It is understood that this is only a recommendation, for in no way does the Theosophical Society commit its members or permit its life to be identified with any single movement in the world, religious, educational, political or otherwise.

Last September the Theosophical Society was again invited to send delegates to the Interim Conference of the Non-Governmental Organizations at Lake Success. The National Vice-President, Mr. E. Norman Pearson, and the National Secretary, Miss Ann Kerr, were chosen for this duty and their reports have been presented to the President and to our National Society.

While at Benares the National President was able to finalize the arrangements for the visits to the American Section of Mr. N. Sri Ram and Mrs. Rukmini Devi Arundale. These plans have been happily consummated and

the eminent guests attended the Convention in 1948.

In the recent elections the National President, Mr. Perkins and the Vice-President, Mr. Pearson were re-elected. The Board of Directors includes Mr. Frank Linton, Miss Ann Kerr, Mrs. Lois Holmes, Dr. George DeHoff and Miss Winifred Boye.

Membership.—Once more we are able to report, as we have for the past six years, a steady increase of membership and of new Lodges in our National Society. 463 new members joined the Society, fewer became inactive than last year, death removed 69 names from our rolls and resignations 81. Reinstatements totalled 104; the net gain is 162. Seven new Lodges were formed and 2 study groups. The total number of Lodges is now 142. Among the stalwart members withdrawn by death was Dr. Nina Pickett, whom many will remember from her lecture tours.

The total membership of the Section is 4,031.

The National Society's financial condition remains satisfactory. In the field we have experienced one of the most active years in recent times. During the year all Lodges of the Section have been visited, many of them more than once, by Mr. and Mrs. John Coats whose splendid work has been much appreciated, and by Miss Clara Codd who has further endeared herself to the Section during her two years' visit recently completed. In addition, Mr. N. Sri Ram, former Vice-President of the Theosophical Society, has completed three months of his extended tour of our Section, and from every Lodge so far visited

have come glowing reports of the inspiring quality of his lectures, and appreciation for his wisdom and helpfulness.

Following the close of last year's Summer Sessions, Mrs. Perkins and I spent two weeks at Orcas Island Camp, contributing to the sessions there a resumé of the Summer Sessions programme at Headquarters. Added to this, the National President toured the Midwest and Southwest during October, and upon his return from India visited, with Mrs. Perkins, the Northeast, Middle-Atlantic and Ohio Federations.

During November Mr. Sidney A. Cook, Vice-President of the Society, drove with Mrs. Cook to the West Coast to embark at San Francisco for their return to Adyar, visiting some of our Lodges and members on the way. Mr. L. W. Rogers lectured in the Ohio and Michigan Federations during the winter. The National Vice-President, Mr. E. Norman Pearson, has visited Lodges in the Central and Eastern Districts during the course of the year. Vigorous work also has been continued by our many Federation speakers in organized areas.

The field work included continuation for another year of collection of the Spotlight Expansion Fund to finance two major field efforts, the estimated cost of which became the Spotlight Fund goal, \$6,000. To this amount the Convention added \$2,000 to send your National President to India to attend the 72nd International Convention at Benares. In order that Mrs. Perkins might accompany him, a further \$2,000 was added to the goal, making the total \$10,000. Two members with wonderful generosity, contributed to the fund the full \$2,000 needed to defray Mrs. Perkins' expenses, and the actual total expenses of the trip to India remained within the budgeted \$4,000. The amount expended—rather than being a sacrifice

—represents an undeniable investment which the members of this Section have chosen to make towards broadening the contacts and service of two of its workers. It has brought our National Society still more closely into the international picture through heartening and brotherly links with Adyar and with overseas Sections and members. The \$6,000 balance of the Spotlight Fund pledges was used, as planned, in furtherance of the programme for building new Lodges and preparation of new study courses.

Miss Joy Mills, with the aid of Mrs. Nedra Ruder, undertook the two field efforts projected, one in the South in the early autumn, and a second in the Northwest during the spring. The Spotlight work in the South resulted in two new Lodges, Mobile and Fairhope, Alabama, and another Lodge established in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

In Washington and Oregon in the spring an excellent plan was carried through, prepared and aided by the Northwest Federation. This included work in five cities—Bellingham, Olympia, Everett, Bremerton and Tacoma. New Lodges were established in Bellingham, Olympia and Everett, and the Lodges in Tacoma and Bremerton were benefited by the additional activity of the class work.

In connection with this Spotlight programme, Mrs. Donna Sherry's full time at Headquarters was given to the writing of Public Study Courses which had been planned by the National Committee for that purpose.

The Field Expansion efforts these past two years have resulted in the creation of 12 new Lodges, 2 study Centres and 3 inactive Lodges revived and 102 members added to the Society's roll. Through these experiments, we have some factual light on costs and upon what can be achieved. Although it is expensive, I believe that it should be one of our major aims to strive persistently to establish Theosophical

Lodges ever further afield. This work has proved its worth, I think, and should be continued on a national scale as a part of the yearly programme, its expense being incorporated as a part of the Society's annual budget. Our efforts at establishing new Lodges have gained successful momentum and should continue. The Theosophical Society should be represented in every city in the United States.

I regret to announce that Miss Joy Mills, whose services in this connection have been so much appreciated, will not be with us on the Headquarters Staff next year. However, her co-worker, Mrs. Nedra Ruder's full time is available for this year, and we have secured her services. The Expansion effort will be concentrated during the coming year in federated areas where consistent follow-up work is assured.

We did not include in the Spotlight Fund, as before, contributions to meet the needs of the work at Adyar. Rather, it will be recalled that for this purpose I stressed the necessity for all members to increase where possible the amounts to be contributed in February through the annual Adyar Day Fund collections. Mr. Thomas W. Pond of Baltimore, who is in charge of this activity, reported that \$12,100 was sent to Adyar, the largest collection so far forwarded. I emphasize again that in the year ahead our contributions to help Adyar's immediate needs will be made through the Adyar Day Fund in February.

Due to the accident which befell your National President in March, a totally new and different kind of fund was spontaneously created, known as the Perkins' Recovery Fund, to which the members have contributed nearly \$5,900. It is expected that insurance settlements will eventually make possible the return of this money to the Section, to set up a specialized fund to use for other needed work. I feel confident that the generous and brotherly

spirit shown by the members in sharing this strange piece of Karma has resulted in new strength and consolidation for our Section.

The National Headquarters has benefited also from the liberality of our members. Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Harrison's gift of \$500 aided materially in the installation last November of a new refrigerator and deep-freeze unit, a much hoped-for resolution of a long felt need. In addition to this, a fine power lawnmower, the gift of Mr. H. A. Kern of Hinsdale, has met in a timely manner one of our problems of replacement.

The Theosophical Press continues to be a department of growing activity. Again this year sales are in considerable excess over other recent years, although there is a drop in gross sales from the very high point attained last year, and this despite the fact that investment has been spread over a wider number of new titles and reprints of popular titles. There are indications that our Lodges are continuously improving their book sales methods and activities. Evidence of consistently better displays is deduced from the fact that the number of our publicity pamphlets distributed in the past three years has mounted steadily each year from 31,100 to 34,505, and now to 46,714 for last year.

It is gratifying also to note that subscriptions to *The Theosophist* through our Press department have increased during the year.

Mr. L. W. Rogers reports that the Theosophical Book Gift Institute was duly incorporated in the State of Illinois this year. Its annual meeting was held in June at Olcott and a new board of Directors elected. The Institute carries on its splendid work of placing books in libraries by mail since the illness of Mrs. Carr, who is no longer able to visit the libraries.

The Department of Information has increased the results of its activities over last year. 13,350 leaflets have

been distributed to 1,000 inquirers during the year. Some 300 inquirers were referred to Lodges, 6 of them joining local Lodges. 30 new members have been added to the Society's rolls through this department's activities, and 469 books, new and used, have been placed in the hands of libraries and leading individuals. 35 new borrowers have joined the National Library from contacts through the department, which also invites inquirers to study further by means of the Introductory Course in Theosophy, sold by the Theosophical Press.

Headquarters previously offered to all new members a Correspondence Course. Since many Lodges conduct their own study classes, it appeared a better policy that only those who are new *National* members should be offered this special help by Headquarters. This new policy was put into effect as from June 1st.

Publication of *Discovery* continues to receive approval. 100,000 of the leaflets were distributed during the year.

The National Librarian, Mrs. Bailey, reports that a total of 2,627 books have been circulated during the year and 200 new books were added to the shelves. 100 new borrowers were added to the rolls making a total of 360 National Library members. Every new member of the Society was contacted by the Librarian and invited to make use of our books. A special invitation was extended to National members who have no access to a Theosophical library.

We have continued the programme at National Headquarters of once-a-month Olcott Sundays, when lectures have been presented, October to May, to the public.

The Theosophical Book Association for the Blind has maintained steadily its work of bringing Theosophy to the blind all over the world. Mrs. Flavia Snyder, its President, reports as a

result of its activity that 11 new members have joined the Society and one reinstated this year, and the monthly *Members' Supplement* goes to 50 blind members to furnish them information and more advanced study. A number of sighted friends of the Association are engaged in transcribing books and other literature into Braille for the library, a greatly needed service which will welcome more workers into its ranks. The Association has undergone a major change in its development. In June a new home, *The Baker Memorial Library*, was completed at Krotona, Ojai, and this allows expansion of the library and publishing house to keep pace with the ever-increasing demand for Theosophical literature in Braille. The new home was planned and built by Theosophists for the cost of materials alone. Thus a \$10,000 building has been obtained for some \$2,800. Of this amount all but \$300 approximately has been collected and Mrs. Snyder appeals for aid to this extent.

The Mothers' Research Group, headed by Mrs. Muriel Lauder Lewis, has continued publication of the *Mothers' Occult Digest* which reaches 253 subscribers in this and 8 foreign countries. In addition, copies of some 15 different pamphlets (including *The Gateway of Birth*) have been issued during the year, and the Group's various committees have been engaged in indexing Theosophical books, condensing Theosophical and magazine articles of interest to parents, schools and libraries, copying reference material and carrying on European relief work. 59 boxes of clothing were sent to Austria. The Relief Committee also collected money to send toys, candles and food to Graz for a Christmas party for 20 children.

There has been an increase in membership of the Theosophical Order of Service which has enabled this important activity to carry out a more ambitious programme than heretofore.

Miss Esther Renshaw, Chief Brother, reports that interest has been much stimulated by articles which have appeared in *The American Theosophist*. Five Order of Service departments have carried on work during the year. These are: *Social Service*—including European relief, work for prison reform, visiting hospitals, and supporting various special activities such as the Theosophical book Association for the Blind, the Mothers' Research Group, the League for American Womanhood. *Healing*—At present there are 20 active groups and correspondence has been maintained with interested members in Mexico and Porto Rico. *Peace Department*—Under Mrs. Diana Winslow has given emphasis to familiarizing members and the public with the organization and achievement of the United Nations Organization. This department also includes the International Correspondence League, with correspondents for letter exchange in 22 countries, and the Braille-Esperanto activity which exchanges magazines and letters with blind members and friends in Europe. *Arts and Crafts Department*—Headed by Mrs. Thea Hehr is developing the Little Theatre project, and public speaking courses have been made available. Olcott Weavers, under this department, report an active year of sales, lectures and demonstrations by Donald Greenwood, the founder. *Animal Welfare Department* reports co-operation from different vegetarian organizations and newspapers, and various of its members have been active in other local and national groups with similar humanitarian aims. An attempt will be made to revive publication of the Order of Service journal *Service*, which was formerly published in England.

The *To Those who Mourn Club*, for many years a particular project of Mr. Wilfred Sigerson, requisitioned approximately 21,000 leaflets, *To Those who Mourn*. This represents an increase of more than 4,000 over the

previous year in the distribution of this very helpful leaflet.

The Olcott Foundation Committee, under the vigorous chairmanship of Mrs. Viva Emmons, stimulated entries this year which included 5 public lectures, 2 articles for *The American Theosophist*, 21 poems and 1 musical composition. Due to the fact that no outstanding lecture was submitted, no Olcott Lecture Award was given by the judges this year.

Coming now to the work of the six National Committees, each of which is headed by a member of the National Board, we report first that the Worker Training Committee under Mr. E. Norman Pearson has successfully developed and carried out the programme for the third Worker's Training period at Olcott, just preceding the National Convention. For several years Mr. Pearson has also been responsible for arrangement of the Successful Service Series of booklets. Those now available are "The President", "The Secretary", and "The Lodge", "Helpful hints" and "Lodge organization", which latter three are sent to each new member from National Headquarters.

The Public Study Courses Committee, headed by Miss Ann Kerr, has directed the production of two new courses—"The Tenets of Theosophy", and "The History of Theosophy and The Theosophical Society."

As announced by Mr. John Sellon the Integration Committee was dissolved. Further development of the work projected by Mr. Fritz Kunz is identified with reorganization on a wider scale, and more immediate contacts with the educational world—a significant transition of great promise.

The Publicity Pamphlets Committee in charge of Mr. Will Ross, has rewritten the pamphlets "Reincarnation" and "Life After Death", both now ready for distribution.

The Headquarters Expansion Committee, headed by Mr. Frank Linton,

has continued to investigate the possibilities of construction of further facilities at Olcott to increase its usefulness and beauty.

In closing, I again turn to our wider field of responsibility, our aid in helping to secure the International Centre at Adyar. Through the collection of an Annual Adyar Day Fund, which has increased substantially during the past three years, we are making our regular contribution to Adyar's annual budget needs. A larger plan created in 1946, the Besant Adyar World (Commemorative) Fund, aimed to solve in a sound financial way the problem of Adyar's recurring deficit. The name of the fund accurately describes its nature, but for easier reference the name has been changed this year to Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund—A. B. C. This A. B. C. Fund, as it may now be termed, contemplates amassing a sum of approximately \$ 600,000, which when invested will ensure an annual income sufficient to meet normal budget deficit of our International Headquarters. To collect such a sum, definite objectives should be set up in each Section. The Theosophical Society in America should contribute approximately \$ 100,000. It has been proposed that the collections be spread over a period of 7 years. If we do this, allowing for a small excess over our quota, each one of our members should endeavour to contribute \$ 4 each year for 7 years. I propose that we do this, and I hope members who are able to will contribute larger amounts than their share, and that Lodges will undertake projects towards further contributions. If we will give this our loving attention, especially invoking the will to sacrifice, I feel certain that we will reach our goal without fail. During the first year of the Fund's existence our Section has contributed nearly \$ 16,000, with no special attention having been directed towards the project.

The vitality of Adyar as an International Centre will be felt in all Sections with the successful founding and development of the School of the Wisdom. Definite plans are well under way for its inauguration at Adyar in November 1949, despite the continued difficulties of the world currency situation distinctly restricting travel by Europeans. This does not apply to Americans, however.

A questionnaire regarding the School, mailed to the Lodges in this Section last year, was received with interested attention. 41 Lodges responded with enthusiastic approval of the proposal, and a number of them indicated willingness to contribute to a fund for establishing an endowment to send promising workers from this Section. Certainly at least one outstanding worker should attend the opening year of the School, as should others each succeeding year. There is likelihood that a fund *already* exists which might be used for establishing an endowment for this purpose. Pending insurance settlements, the money contributed to hospitalization expenses of the Perkins' accident will be returned to the Perkins' Recovery Fund. Part of the nearly \$ 5,900 thus voluntarily donated might form the nucleus for an endowment to send a worker each year to the School. In addition, there is the possibility that with some financial help provided for travel expenses, we might arrange an exchange of Adyar and Olcott Headquarters' workers, which would permit one of our members to attend the School while doing part time work in some department at Adyar. These two possibilities assure us that at least one of our workers, and perhaps another, can be present during the opening session of the School of the Wisdom. We hope that in addition to this one or two, other earnest workers in our Section may be able personally to finance a year's study at Adyar.

To help provide for the future of Adyar by the employment of our talents and resources is a rare and gracious privilege. Let us welcome it then, and rejoice in it, as indeed we rejoice in all of the Theosophical labours

which we have chosen to uphold at home and abroad in the service of Humanity and the world.

JAMES H. PERKINS,
General Secretary.

ENGLAND

This year has been marked by continual and sustained work in all the Lodges, and by several large propaganda efforts. Fourteen touring lecturers have visited the Lodges all over England and thus helped in the stimulation of the work. In addition we have had the advantage of touring visits from Mr. N. Sri Ram, Mr. J. Perkins, National President of the American Section and Mrs. Perkins, Mr. E. Gall, General Secretary of the Scottish Section, Mr. H. Shearman of Ireland, and Miss Clara Codd, who spent six months with us, visiting the six Federations, where large public audiences listened to her with great appreciation. We had the privilege of a visit from Srimati Rukmini Devi during her European tour. She and Miss Clara Codd were the principal speakers at the Annual Convention.

During the year Mrs. Josephine Ransom and Mrs. Hilda Powell both celebrated the Golden Jubilee of their membership in the Society.

English members went both to the Danish Summer School organized by Mr. and Mrs. S. Ransom, and to the European Federation Workers' Week in Sweden. The General Secretary, Mrs. Doris Groves, attended and gave an account of the War Distress Relief work. Some hundreds of parcels of English members' rationed foods and parcels of clothing have been sent to German Lodges and members. Towards the end of the period under review there was rather less of this work, as owing to the currency reform

and good harvest in Germany the food situation had improved and most English members have little more surplus clothing to spare. It is a matter of satisfaction, however, to realize that the worst needs of our German members were met at the most critical time.

Owing to the increased cost of living, the national dues were raised to 30/- for unattached and to 17/- for attached members at the beginning of the year, and an appeal for donations to assist in the expansion of the Section's work met with a generous response. Amounts of £41 for the Olcott Harijan School, and of £492 for the Annie Besant Commemorative Fund were forwarded to Adyar during the year, thus bringing the total donated to the latter Fund by members through this Headquarters so far to £1520.

The Besant Centenary was celebrated by meetings throughout the country. At Headquarters we had the privilege of addresses by the President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, Mr. Digby Besant, Mrs. Beatrice Ensor and others, including the High Commissioner for India, Mr. Krishna Menon. Broadcasts on the B.B.C. were made by the President and Mr. Peter Freeman, M.P., and aroused a widespread interest.

Throughout the Section there were meetings to commemorate United Nations Day. Dr. Haden Guest, M.P., was the speaker at Headquarters and a very real interest was aroused in the work of the United Nations as a result of the meeting.

The Study and Training Committee of the National Council issued a series of nine papers outlining a Study Course for new members. The first paper is sent with the diploma and membership card, and the member is asked to apply for the subsequent papers as required. The results of this scheme have shown the real need for helping the new member to gain a knowledge of the fundamental teachings of Theosophy. The papers were later edited by Mrs. Adelaide Gardner and published under the title *Introductory Studies in Theosophy*. The Committee is now

working on a new Advanced Study Course. An *Epitome of Isis Unveiled* compiled by Mrs. Josephine Ransom has also been published.

The large orange posters have again been displayed as advertisements in the London Underground stations, and the attendance at Headquarters public lectures continues steadily to increase.

The membership of the Section is 3,694. There are 115 Lodges.

DORIS GROVES,
General Secretary.

INDIA

I. GENERAL SURVEY

Introductory.—I am very happy to submit this report of the work of the Theosophical Society in India during the year 1947-48. The year under report has been full of varied experiences for the peoples of this land—a year of great triumphs but also a year of great tragedies. The most tragic event of the year was the cruel assassination of Mahatma Gandhi. The Indian Nation will ever remain grateful to him for the selfless services rendered by him to the cause of Humanity. On behalf of the members of the Theosophical Society in India I offer to him our most respectful homage.

The Indian Nation is today in its formative stage. In order that it may grow into a powerful nation we have to reorganize its political, its economic, its social, its cultural and its spiritual life. It is a stupendous task—one which demands great vision and sacrifice on the part of all the idealists living in this land. As a group of idealists, we Theosophists in India must play our part in the building up of this great Nation. Perhaps no other group of Theosophists in the world

has been given such a splendid opportunity as has come to us. Let us, therefore, look at our Theosophical work in this new context so that we may be able to bring to bear upon the problems of the Indian Nation the light of Theosophy.

NATIONAL TOURS

The President.—The Indian Section is indeed very grateful to the President for having undertaken in the course of this year two extensive tours in Western as well as Northern India. In the course of these two tours he visited Poona, Bombay, Surat, Broach, Baroda, Ahmedabad, Bhavnagar, Nagpur, Gwalior, Jhansi, Agra, Delhi, Allahabad, Banaras, Patna and Calcutta. He also visited during the year Cocanada and Cuddapah in the South. Wherever he went he put new life into the Lodges. I need not say his visits to these Lodges have very greatly strengthened our Theosophical work in India. On behalf of the members of the Indian Section I express our heartfelt gratitude to him.

The Vice-President.—The Vice-President of the Theosophical Society, Mr. Sidney A. Cook, was for the major part of the year in India and presided over two conferences of Theosophists in Bangalore and Chittoor. He has been taking an active part in the work of the Theosophical Society in South India and has initiated a movement for contacting Theosophical Lodges in the Tamil Federation through pamphlets and letters. The Indian Section is very grateful to him for all the help he has been giving to the work of the Theosophical Society in India.

Shri N. Sri Ram.—During the year Shri N. Sri Ram visited Allahabad, Patna and Bombay Lodges.

Shrimati Rukmini Devi.—Shrimati Rukmini Devi was able to visit in the course of the year the Bombay and Allahabad Lodges.

The General Secretary.—Shridevi and I visited during the year Bombay, Surat, Broach, Baroda, Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Mysore, Hassan, Shimoga, Sagar, Jog, Patna, Gaya, Ranchi, Hazaribagh, Darbhanga, Muzaffarpur, Jhansi and Allahabad. I presided over the Bihar, the Karnataka and the United Provinces Theosophical Conferences and participated in the Gujarat-Kathiawar Theosophical Conference which was presided over by the President.

The Theosophical Society in Pakistan.—At the last Banaras Convention held in December 1947, the Indian Section Council decided to redistribute the boundaries of two Provincial Federations—the Sind-Multan-Baluchistan and the North-Western Federations. In accordance with this resolution the Sind-Multan-Baluchistan Federation was named as the North Western Federation with its jurisdiction over the whole of Western Pakistan, while the old North Western Federation was named the Delhi and East Punjab Federation, having jurisdiction over Lodges in Delhi, East Punjab and also the State

of Kashmir. In the course of the year, however, it was considered desirable to have a separate organization for Pakistan Lodges, with its affiliation direct to the International Headquarters. In October 1948, the President decided to accord to the Lodges in Pakistan the status of the Theosophical Society in Pakistan, an organization distinct and separate from the Indian Section. In accord with this decision 17 Lodges, two Centres and one Youth Lodge which were heretofore attached to the Indian Section have now been transferred to the Theosophical Society in Pakistan. Out of the 17 Lodges, 13 are in Western Pakistan while four are in Eastern Pakistan. The names of these Lodges and Centres are: Karachi, Hyderabad, Jamshednagar, Sukkur, Larkana, Rohri, Shikarpur, Khairpur Mirs, Quetta, Multan, Lahore, Rawalpindi, Lyallpur, Karachi Youth Lodge, Besant Centre and Karachi Scout Centre in Western Pakistan and Comilla, Narail, Magura and Jessore in Eastern Pakistan. At present out of these Lodges and Centres only Karachi, Hyderabad, Jessore, Magura and Comilla are functioning. Due to political disturbances large number of members from the other Lodges have migrated into different parts of India with the result that these Lodges have for the time being become inactive. It is, therefore, not possible immediately to establish a separate Pakistan Section. However, the President has established a Presidential Agency in Pakistan with Sri Jamshed Nusserwanji as the Presidential Agent. In due course other Lodges will start functioning and so a separate Pakistan Section will be formed. For 52 years the Karachi Lodge has been one of the most active Lodges of the Indian Section, contributing richly to the work of the Theosophical Society in India. From one standpoint it is a matter of sadness for us that after a close association of 52 years the Karachi

Lodge should be separated from the Indian Section. But it is in the fitness of things that Pakistan being an independent country should have its own Section to carry on the work of the Theosophical Society. We, therefore, welcome the establishment of the Theosophical Society in Pakistan with, probably, Karachi as its National Headquarters. Karachi Lodge thus becomes a premier Lodge of the Theosophical Society in Pakistan. We congratulate the members of the Karachi Lodge on the great and historic task to which they are now called, namely, to play a leading role in the building up of a new Section of the Theosophical Society. We have no doubt that the work of the Indian and the Pakistan Sections will help in the establishment of better relations between the two Dominions so that India and Pakistan together may exercise their powerful influence for the maintenance of world Peace. We wish all success to the Theosophical Society in Pakistan. We in India will watch with very great interest the growth and development of the Pakistan Section. Needless to say the Indian Section will be always ready to help our brethren in Pakistan in the stupendous work that lies before them. As this decision about the establishment of the Theosophical Society in Pakistan came in October 1948, I have included the work of the Pakistan Lodges in this report of the Indian Section. For the purposes of membership also the Pakistan members have been included in this report. In the course of this year we found that a large number of Pakistan Lodges were not able to pay their annual dues to the Indian Section because of the upsetting of their social and economic life. The Executive Committee of the Indian Section decided to treat all such members as in "good-standing", and for this purpose transferred the necessary amount from the T. S. Refugees' Fund to the

Indian Section Annual Dues' account. And so on 30th September 1948 all the members of Pakistan Lodges, whether now in Pakistan or in India, have been put on the active list. This will enable the Theosophical Society in Pakistan to start with a clean slate without having in any way to trouble about the arrears of annual dues.

Membership.—On 1st October 1947 the membership of the Indian Section stood at 7,208. During the year 795 new members joined the Theosophical Society in India, 104 dormant members revived their membership and three members were transferred to the Indian Section from other Sections. As against this 94 members passed away in the course of this year, 88 members resigned, 8 members transferred their memberships to other Sections and 555 members have been dropped out due to non-payment of annual dues. And so the total membership of the Indian Section on 30th September 1948 stands at 7,364. Last year with 7,208 members we reached the highest point in the membership record of the Indian Section since its inception. This year we have gone still further and have established a new membership record with 7,364 members. The largest increase during the year has been in the Andhra Circars Federation with 138 new members. As I mentioned in my last year's report we have to note with great satisfaction the fact that more and more young people are coming into the Theosophical Movement in India. Apart from the 120 new members registered by the Youth Federation in most of the other Federations also there is a steady increase in youth membership.

"If only our Theosophical Movement in the Lodges could be shining with the real spirit of the idealist, then you would catch some of the young people. It is in this spirit that the young are coming to us. But I fear in many places the old are still prejudiced and

not inspired to lead the young into the new ways of service. Instead they want the young to follow the path in which they, the old, are going."

FEDERATION MEMBERSHIP CHART

	Previous year	Members on 1 Oct. '47	Add		Total	Deduct			Total on 1 Oct. '48	
			New	Revived		Died	Resigned	Dropped out		
Andhra Central	...	445	452	32	6	490	3	—	38	449
Andhra Circars	...	952	950	138	7	1095	13	3	102	977
Bengal	...	312	307	27	—	334	6	16	11	301
Bihar	...	379	383	53	11	447	1	—	52	394
Bombay	...	347	348	45	4	397	4	5	1	387
Central India and Jpütana	...	212	212	25	4	241	2	9	8	222
Gujerat and Kathiawar	...	696	705	45	6	756	17	14	25	700
Karnataka	...	726	727	96	3	826	11	2	34	779
Kerala	...	141	140	21	1	162	—	2	4	156
Marathi	...	254	257	11	1	269	3	11	6	249
Punjab	...	152	156	21	— T 1	177	3	1	15	158
Delhi	...	404	330	22	R 2 T 1	355	5	4	4	342
Tamil	...	661	668	55	R 14 T 1	738	11	T 2 T	51	674
United Provinces	...	538	565	75	R 24	661	11	R 7 OA 32 R 10 T 5	31	611
Youth	...	761	739	120	6	865		R 4	139	684
Unattached	...	228	273	9	14 OA 32	328	4		34	281
Total	...	7208	7208	795	T 3 R 103 OA 32	8141	94	OA 32 T 8 R 88	555	7364

OA—Overage Youth ; T—Transfer ; R—Resigned or Revived.

Lodges and Centres.—We began the year with 426 Lodges and Centres. During the year 18 Lodges and Centres have been formed. These are : Mandapeta, Bombay, Navsari, Modukuru,

Kondlahalli, Halapalaya, Mussorie, Kakkavarupukota, Borivenka, Bulsar, Lakavarapukota, Ghaziabad, Alur, Talamanchi, Gobichettypalayam, Jambusar, Kampli, Tumnapudi and Kotagiri. On

30th September 1948 we have on the roll of the Indian Section 432 Lodges and Centres.

The Theosophical work in East Punjab has to be freshly organized and efforts are being made in that direction. So far practically no work or very little Theosophical work has been done in the provinces of Orissa and Assam. A beginning must be made to initiate Theosophical work in these two provinces so that in course of time they too may have their own Provincial Federations.

Inter-Provincial Workers.—A number of Indian Section workers have toured during the year in different parts of the country giving public lectures, contacting members and in other ways strengthening Lodge work in various provinces. Sri A. Ranganatham has during the year visited Lodges in the Tamil, Karnataka and Andhra Central Districts Federations. He has also been looking after the Indian Section properties in the south.

Bro. C. R. Parthasarthy Iyengar has also visited during the year Lodges in the Karnataka and the Andhra Central Districts Federation. Prof. R. S. Bhagavat presided over the Central India and Rajputana Federation which was held at Dhar. He also visited Lodges in the Marathi Federation.

Joint-General Secretaries.—Sri G. V. Subba Rao (South) visited Giddalur, Cuddapah, Gooty, Bellary, Bangalore, Mysore, Chintamani, Devalapalli and Bowringpet as well as Lodges in the Andhra Circars Federation.

Sri Radha Kant Sharan (East) visited all the Lodges of the Bihar Federation during the year and also a few Lodges in the United Provinces Federation.

Sri S. J. Karaka (West) was for the most part of the year seriously ill and so could not undertake any touring work in his Division.

This year no Joint General Secretary was appointed for the North Division as, due to politically unsettled conditions

in these parts, touring work was entirely out of the question.

Field-Workers.—There are at present two full-time Field workers in the Indian Section, Sri Bhupatray Mehta and Sri B. Keshavchandra. Sri Bhupatray Mehta has been working in Gujarat-Kathiawar and Bombay Federations. He specializes in intensive work and hence concentrates on a few Lodges where he spends a considerable time during the year. He has been conducting study classes in some of the Lodges of the Gujarat-Kathiawar Federation and these have proved very interesting to young people.

Sri B. Keshavchandra visited during the year Lodges in Central India and Rajputana, Bihar and the United Provinces Federations. During the year he familiarized himself with the work in the Indian Section Office in its various branches. He also assisted Sri G. R. Venkatram in compiling material for the Indian Section Year Book.

The Theosophical Order of Service.—During the 1947 Banaras Convention a decision was taken to revive the Theosophical Order of Service in India. At the Convention the President appointed a National Committee for India. The Committee met in the course of the Convention and elected Sri C. Jinarajadasa as Chairman, Sri S. R. Bharatya as National Secretary and Sri Rohit Mehta as National Treasurer of the Order in India. A constitution for the Order has been drafted and has been put into operation. In accordance with this constitution the country has been divided into five Regions and a Secretary has been appointed for each of these regions. The work of the Theosophical Order of Service is very important for the strengthening of Theosophical work in India. With larger and larger number of young people coming into the Theosophical Society we need this organization to give a new direction to their activity. In all our Theosophical Lodges

we must develop both the Study as well as the Service aspects of our work. In India today the scope for social service is immense. The work of the building up of the Indian Nation cannot be accomplished by mere Governmental effort. No Government, however efficient and idealistic it may be, can achieve this task without the close co-operation of voluntary organizations. In fact much of the initiative for social and national work must come from these voluntary organizations. Unfortunately very little work has been done in this direction in the country at large with the result that the energies of India's Youth are at present directed along lines which are not particularly useful to the Nation. At a time like this the Theosophical Society should provide useful channels for social work to the younger generation and thus lead them on to Theosophical Idealism.

Study and Workers' Camps.—As I stated in my last year's report Study Camps and Workers' Gatherings are becoming quite popular in our various Federations. Regular Study Camps are being held in the Bihar, Gujarat-Kathiawar and Karnataka Federations. In other Federations, like the Andhra Circars, Group and District Conferences are held which serve the purpose of Workers' Gatherings. This year we had a Workers' Conference at Banaras where workers from United Provinces, Bihar and Central India and Rajputana had come. It was a conference lasting only three days but much useful work was done.

Work Diary and Work Form.—In order that systematic work may be done in the Theosophical Field, we have introduced this year a Work Diary for Lodge Organizers, Field Workers and other full-time as well as part-time workers. We started this practice rather late in the year but even then the response from different workers has been very encouraging. Such a Work

Diary gives a certain amount of definiteness to the work that is to be done by the various types of workers. Similarly a Work Form has been introduced for Theosophical Lodges in India.

The Silver Jubilee of the Youth Federation.—The All-India Federation of Young Theosophists was established in 1923 during the Banaras Convention. This year, therefore, is the Silver Jubilee Year of the Youth Federation. In the course of these 25 years the Youth Federation has contributed a great deal to the enrichment of the Indian Section.

Theosophical Publications in Hindi.—In the course of this year a definite movement has been initiated to publish Theosophical books in Hindi. The work of Hindi Publications has now assumed an All-India importance. We have started putting two or three Hindi articles each month in *The Indian Theosophist*. Today each Federation has its own publication work. In most Federations the market for these books is so limited that the publication work does not become a financially sound proposition. I admit that Theosophical books in various provincial languages will have to be published but due to restricted markets big books, particularly classical books, on Theosophy cannot be published in these different languages. It will be more economical to publish such books in Hindi. A Hindi Publication Board has been appointed and it has issued a plan of publications for the coming year.

The Indian Section Year Book.—One of the most important activities of the Indian Section during the year has been the publication of the Indian Section Year Book. Besides information on different topics the Year Book contains suggestions for the organization of Theosophical work in the Lodges. In India we need propaganda literature and the Year Book is a beginning in

this direction. It can safely be put in the hands of enquirers who will find a great deal of material for their use.

The Indian Section Constitution.—The Executive Committee of the Indian Section has suggested certain changes in the Section Constitution this year. These deal with the annual dues of the members of the Indian Section. I am sure the members of the Indian Section fully realize that it must be extremely difficult to conduct Section affairs with no increase in its revenue and with four or five times increase in its general expenditure due to the phenomenal rise in the prices of all commodities. Our annual dues have remained the same for the last 15 or more years while the expenditure during the last four or five years has increased enormously. The Executive Committee therefore has suggested an increase in the annual dues. The increase is not much for ordinary members of the Indian Section who cannot afford to pay more. For these members the annual dues have been fixed at Rs. 5/- per year—an increase of only One Rupee. But the new proposal made by the Executive Committee is that while this may be considered the basic grade of membership there should be two other grades in which the annual dues will be Rs. 10/- and Rs. 15/- per year. It is left entirely to the option of the member to which grade he or she shall belong.

Section Properties.—During the year under report the Indian Section has come into possession of three houses at Bhowali, near Nainital, due to the gift of the late Sri Beni Prasad Bhatnagar and the late Sri Narayan Swaroop. These three houses are valued at Rs. 15,000/-. In the course of this year a spacious building belonging to Shrimati Bahuvidya Mehta at Surat has been transferred to the Indian Section. It is proposed to use this for the activities of the Gujarat-Kathiawar Federation. We are very thankful to

her for this generous gift to the Theosophical Society in India.

Finance.—Our expenditure is mainly under three heads: (1) The Administrative and Organizational work of the Indian Section; (2) The National Headquarters at Banaras and (3) The Besant Theosophical School. So far as the Besant Theosophical School is concerned we are from this year able to manage the recurring expenditure out of the fees and the government grant and also small donations from members and the public. But it is impossible to meet the capital expenditure of the school out of these sources. The school has developed into a big institution and is growing from year to year. It is the only educational institution run by the Theosophical Society in India.

With regard to the other two items of expenditure, the Headquarters and Section Organization, so far the arrangement has been that the Banaras Headquarters should be maintained out of the rents we receive from the houses on the T.S. Estate, and the Section administrative and organizational expenditure should be met out of the amounts received by way of annual dues. In the past this has worked satisfactorily. But the present economic conditions do not allow us to work this arrangement. A Society like ours has to be maintained by donations and if each contributes his share it should not be difficult for us to collect the necessary finances for the upkeep of Banaras and for carrying out all our various activities for the administrative and organizational efficiency of the Indian Section.

II. WORK AT THE INDIAN SECTION HEADQUARTERS

The work at the Section Headquarters has gone on well in spite of many difficulties. In the Indian Section Office we lost a very valued and

loyal colleague in the passing away of Sri R. D. Lal who had worked as Section Accountant for the last 24 years. Another old worker, Sri M. R. V. Sarma, had to retire due to ill-health after working in the Section office for 23 years. The Indian Section is grateful to both these workers for the loyal service they have given to the work of the Theosophical Society.

We are very fortunate in having Sri Piarelal Bhargava as Accountant. Mr. Henry van de Poll continues to look after the membership section of our administrative work. He is an extremely efficient worker and works painstakingly to maintain his department up-to-date. Srimati Savitri Advani continues her admirable work as a steno-typist and is of great help in the office administration. Over and above these there is Sri Ramnath Dandekar who works as an Assistant in the Indian Section Office.

The Indian Bookshop.—The Indian Bookshop and the Ananda Publishing House are under the management of Sri G. R. Venkatram who is assisted by Sri R. C. Verma. The Bookshop is now located in a very prominent building near the main gate of the Theosophical Estate. This year our business turnover has been Rs. 16,516-10-3. There are a number of books ready for publication and the Bookshop expects to bring them out in the course of the next year. In fact we are not able to keep up with the demand of our customers. So far as Theosophical books are concerned it remains the only bookshop in the North. With the Ananda Publishing House undertaking more and more publication work, specially in Hindi, the scope of the Indian Bookshop will increase considerably.

The Indian Section Library.—The Section Library has been expanded still further in the course of this year. All the books of the Library have now been card-indexed. The Library is

under the direction of Shrimati Radha Sri Ram. She is assisted by Sri S. A. Hajare. The Library has been recognized by the U. P. Government as a Public Library and we are expecting this year both a recurring as well as a non-recurring grant from the Educational Department of the U. P. Government. We have arranged for Theosophical Lodges in India to borrow books from the Library.

The Besant Theosophical School.—From this year our School has become a Higher Secondary School which means the same status as an Intermediate College. We have not yet started the Collegiate classes but according to the new scheme of education in the United Provinces in the course of two years we shall be training students for the present Intermediate classes. At present we have 370 students and for want of class accommodation we are not able to take more students. Every year we have to refuse admission to large numbers of students. This year we sent our first batch of students for the Matriculation examination and all our students passed, more than 50% securing first class. We received from the Government a maintenance grant of Rs. 7,800/- and this year we expect to get Rs. 10,000/- as Government grant. Under the new scheme of Education we have been recognized for Scientific, Literary, Constructive and Aesthetic types and there are only two schools in Banaras that have received recognition for all the four types of education. The School is under the direction of Sri N. V. Tampi who is a very able headmaster and a very loving friend of all the students. He has under him a fine band of young teachers who fully co-operate with him in all the school activities.

Ours is a National institution drawing students from all parts of the country. It is the only educational institution conducted directly by the

Theosophical Society in India. And so it is an institution belonging to the members of the Indian Section.

The Vasanta Vihar.—To the Besant Theosophical School is attached a Boarding House for boys which is called Vasanta Vihar in respectful memory of Dr. Besant. The Vasanta Vihar has at present 65 boarders. We had to refuse admission to a large number of students due to want of space. The Vasanta Vihar is under the direction of Shrimati Shridevi Mehta. She is assisted by Sri N. K. Bhide. The Vasanta Vihar is a growing institution and looks after the physical, emotional, mental and spiritual development of the boys staying there. During the recent floods in Banaras some of the boarders went to the villages to render relief to the flood-stricken people. The boys in the Vasanta Vihar are growing up in the happy and spiritually uplifting atmosphere of the Theosophical Compound. They are always of great service at all Theosophical gatherings. The most urgent need of the Hostel is for more rooms. Each block of rooms is roughly estimated to cost Rs. 2,500/-. We require immediately six or seven such blocks. A generous donor has contributed the necessary amount for one block in memory of his mother.

Other Departments.—The Buildings and the Gardens at the Theosophical Headquarters are under the charge of Sri Damodar Prasad. He has been working strenuously at the improvement of the garden, with the result that each year it is more and more colourful. In the course of the year urgent repairs to some of our buildings have been attended to and the electric wiring in the Headquarters building has been completely changed.

The Watch and Ward Department continues to be in charge of Sri R. V. Phansalkar, while the Sanitation work is being looked after temporarily by Sri Ramnath Dandekar. The Dispensary is under the direction of

Dr. Sunanda Phansalkar and Dr. R. V. Phansalkar.

The Bhojanasala is now under the management of the Vasanta Vihar and is run for the students as well as other boarders by the Superintendent of the Vasanta Vihar, Shrimati Shridevi Mehta, assisted by Sri K. P. Singh.

The legal work continues to be in charge of Sri Chandra Deva Narayan and Sri Ravi Sharan Verma. Sri Ravi Sharan Verma is at present engaged in regularizing the ownership of different Lodge buildings in India. The Nafar Das Roy estate still continues to need the attention of the legal Department.

Community Life.—At the Section Headquarters most of the residents gather together once a week for Group meditations. They also meet for Household meetings where matters concerning life in a Theosophical Community are discussed. The residents, including the boarders of the Vasanta Vihar and the girls of the Vasanta College, meet at a Community Dinner. Besides, certain Theosophical and National days are celebrated in which the whole community participates.

Allied and Associated Activities.—The Kashi Tattva Sabha, the premier Lodge of the Theosophical Society was very active throughout the year arranging lectures and talks on a variety of subjects. Students from surrounding institutions usually come in large numbers to these lectures. The General Secretary has been giving a series of lectures on *New Pathways in Education* which has been greatly appreciated by the students and teachers of the Training College. Most distinguished among those who gave talks were the Hon'ble G. V. Mavlankar, the Speaker of the Indian Parliament and Dr. Amarnath Jha, the Vice-Chancellor of the Banaras Hindu University.

During the visit of the President to the Section Headquarters a tree was planted by him near the Bharata Samaj Temple. The Ritual of the Mystic Star, the Order of the Round Table, the Bharata Samaj Puja and the Healing Group are among the other activities at the Centre. One of the most important of the activities is the Cultural Association which arranges programmes of cultural value from time to time.

Before I conclude this Section of my report I wish to express my most heartfelt thanks to all my colleagues in various Departments at the Section Headquarters for the unstinted co-operation they have given me in my work here. But for their co-operation it would not have been possible for me to do anything to keep alive the Flame of this Centre. I also want to thank most sincerely the students and the staff of the Besant Theosophical School, the Vasanta Vihar and the Vasanta College for all the help they have given us in our various activities and for putting life and vigour into the work at the Section Headquarters.

III. THE WORK BEFORE US

The work before the Theosophical Society in India is very great indeed. The aim before us is to help India to rise to her great spiritual heights so that she may be able to shed on the darkened world of today the light of the Ancient Wisdom.

For this purpose it is necessary that we should have before us, in as clear terms as possible, a three-year or a five-year plan so that at the end of that period we may know what have been our achievements and what have been our failures. As I perceive it, our work at present is as follows :

1. To create a National Consciousness among the members of the Indian Section.
2. To pool all the available resources in men and money so that our Provincial and National work may be properly co-ordinated.
3. To re-organize our Lodge work in such a way that our members everywhere may become more active in the service of the Theosophical Society.
4. To evolve suitable means for the training of new workers.
To organize our allied Activities in a better and more efficient manner.
To put our educational work on a firm footing so that we may utilize more effectively this line of work for influencing the future citizens of this land along Theosophical Idealism.
7. To work in an organized manner for the application of Theosophy to the problems of National and International life.

Conclusion.—The work before us is stupendous. But our opportunity also is very great. Let us all throw ourselves energetically into the work of the Theosophical Society in India. Our work in India needs all types of workers—all of us can do something for the strengthening of our movement in this country. Let us not be mere members of the Theosophical Society—let us be active agents for the cause of Universal Brotherhood. Our work is great and let us not forget that nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm.

ROHIT MEHTA,

General Secretary.

AUSTRALIA

The Section Membership has grown from 982 a year ago to 1,016, an increase of 34.

The 1948 Convention was held at Easter in Adelaide (South Australia) which has a fine cultural tradition. There was a mass of deliberative work done in Council to adjust the budget to the needs of the Section and as the result of it Convention determined to inaugurate a fund of £1,000 to set the Section on a firm financial basis. Expressed broadly, the Lodges with a total membership on December 31 of 1,001 have been asked to raise about £1 per member.

The appeal is divided into two sections: (1) The Australian Section Fund (A.S.F.) designed to eliminate outstanding deficits and based on a quota of 14/- per member, and (2) Voluntary Dues, the Lodges to contribute every year a quota of 5/- per member towards the working expenses of the Section. The A.S.F. was estimated to raise £700 and the Voluntary Dues £250 approximately. By September 30 one-third of the objective had been reached.

The estimated deficit on this year's working included provision for an office assistant, renovation of the office and expenses of a touring lecturer. The implication of the Voluntary Dues is that some Lodges will need to raise subscriptions. The Section dues have for some years been stationary at 6/- per member plus 2/- for Superannuation Fund, while the work of the Section Office is expanding and costs are rising. Out of the Section dues of 6/- per member, 5/- has been expended on the Section journal, *Theosophy in Australia*, which is sent free to every member, a further 7d. per member goes to Adyar in dues, leaving 5d. for the Section. "No wonder we have a deficit", remarked a Lodge President at Convention. The Australian Section

dues are much lower than those in England or the United States.

The theme of an interesting Convention discussion was "Ways and means by which Theosophy may combat materialism."

A.B.C. Fund.—Collections for the Adyar Besant Centenary Fund, as it is now called, began in August 1946 and by the end of 1947 the Section had raised £1,214/12/9 for this fund alone and a gross total for all Adyar purposes of £1,290/15/9. Adding remittances which we know were sent direct to Adyar by Lodges and private individuals the totals raised in the Section must have been about £1,500 in less than eighteen months.

Between April and August Miss Emma Hunt, New Zealand General Secretary, was in Australia touring the Section. She came over at our invitation and visited practically all the active Lodges on the mainland, spreading the Wisdom and inspiring the members. She found Australia a lusty young giant developing a tremendous power of will as compared with the "more delicate" sister Dominion of New Zealand, which Miss Hunt believes has every prospect of becoming a home of the arts. Her visit has knit closer the occult ties which bind these two countries together in a common destiny as the home of the sixth sub-race—the Austral-American race as the ethnologists designate it.

In 1950 we are expecting Mr. John Coats as visiting lecturer, after spending the latter half of 1949 in New Zealand.

We have had proof during the year of the appreciable impression which our radio broadcasts are making upon the public: this 2GB propaganda is a unique experiment of immense importance as a Section activity, seeing that Sydney is becoming a centre of great power and purpose in the new Pacific

civilization. [It is scarcely remembered to-day how the call-sign 2GB originated. When the Station was founded in 1926 it was proposed to name it 2AB after Dr. Besant, but the Postmaster-General disapproved it for phonetic reasons and 2GB after Giordano Bruno, was submitted and accepted. The commercial company which controls the Station today relates it to Greater Broadcasts!] Our radio output through the last twenty years is having now a cumulative effect and even though it does not vitally increase the membership of the Section in proportion to the breadth of its contacts, it is imbuing many people within the range of its frequencies with the Theosophical way of life. Our propaganda has broken down much opposition to Theosophy and we should not under-estimate its potencies in preparing the right philosophy and environment for the new race egos. Our shareholding in Station 2GB has been increased during the year.

The Section has forged friendly links with the United Nations, not only on the physical plane but in the world of ideals. In February last the Theosophical Society in Australia was elected to the State Council which is functioning in connection with the UNICEF and the fund was supported in our broadcasts. We have also co-operated with the United Nations Association. The National celebration of the United Nations Day falls on October 24 and the Section will observe that day.

The Great Work is being vigorously pursued in the Lodges. The situation in Tasmania has been retrieved and both Hobart and Launceston Lodges are functioning normally.

Young Theosophists in the big Lodges are making up food parcels for

members in England and on the Continent. The Round Table is expanding. The Golden Chain was revived at Convention, thus completing the gamut.

The 1949 Convention is scheduled to be held in Sydney at Easter during the visit of the King and Queen and our great regret is that the President will be unable to be present because of shipping difficulties.

The Australian Section has sent an invitation to the President to hold the next world Congress in Australia. The President replies that the invitation will be given proper consideration in the General Council. "If it ever takes place it cannot be before 1951," he says.

All that we can do we must do to spread the light of Theosophy in this young Nation where experimental policies are being pursued—ruthlessly in some respect—in so many phases of the civic life. To the extent that the refining and cultural influences of Theosophy are able to unify the people on the higher levels, to that extent will the cruder elements of party political interests on the lower levels fall away. This is a never-ceasing task to which we of the Band of Servers have put our hand, a continuous cleansing of an Augean stable with the waters of the Wisdom, the incessant sounding of a harmonious constructive vibration which will help to neutralize subversive and materialistic thought currents and speed the work of the Adepts, the Master-Builders, for the new civilization. We are highly privileged to be knowingly working with Them. We really ought to be making the utmost of our splendid opportunities.

J. L. DAVIDGE,

General Secretary.

SWEDEN

During the first months of the year work went on as usual with Lodge meetings, of which some were open to the public. In January the work of preparing for the Workers' Week in Sweden began. Our part was to find a suitable place and arrange for visas. This meant a good deal of correspondence.

The members showed great willingness to help with the Section's project to give some German children hospitality for a time, and many gave financial help. All but one of these children left Sweden during the year.

The possibilities of arranging lecture tours have been small owing to lack of finances and shortage of lecturers who are able to give time to this work. Bishop Viking, from Denmark, visited the Section and gave a series of talks during a week-end in Stockholm and some lectures in Goteborg.

The Section has 354 members in 18 Lodges.

But now we have great hopes for future work because an appeal to members to help the Section financially met with great enthusiasm, so that we are now able to start a campaign to begin in Stockholm in February.

The outstanding event of 1948 was the Workers' Week, which the Section was fortunate to have in its own country. I think that it meant a great stimulus for us, as it brought new contacts, new friendships and reminded the isolated members of their membership, not only of the Swedish Section but of a worldwide movement, which works for Brotherhood so much needed in our days.

SIGNE FJELLANDER,

Acting General Secretary.

NEW ZEALAND

An outstanding event this year has been the establishment of the New Zealand Section in a Headquarters Building of its own. This was made possible by Miss G. M. Hemus who at the Golden Jubilee Convention, offered her property in Epsom for the purpose of a National Headquarters. A New Zealand Theosophical Properties Trust was constituted at the following Convention and in January, 1948, the property was legally transferred and the Section office commenced to function in its own premises. The house is well set out in gardens and has three floors. The middle floor is used for executive work with two pleasant offices and a large and beautiful lounge. On the other floors the chief officers of the Section reside. Some months were required for general preparation and furnishing and on 25th September,

1948, the Headquarters was officially opened with 120 members present. Congratulatory messages and telegrams were read from the Lodges and from individual members throughout New Zealand. Among the speakers were the Hon. H. G. R. Mason, Miss G. M. Hemus and Mr. Geoffrey Hodson. Representing the Section, I officially declared the Headquarters open in the following words:

"In the Name of the Great Brotherhood and to the Service of Humanity, on behalf of the New Zealand Section of The Theosophical Society, I declare open this building as a National Headquarters.

"May the Blessing of the Great Teachers rest upon all who come within these walls. May this Building ever be a radiant centre of Their Light, Their Love and Their Peace."

So ended an historic event, one of immeasurable importance to the Society in New Zealand.

Another important event this year has been a closer cementing of the ties of friendship between the Australian and New Zealand Sections. This was made possible by an invitation from the Australian Section for me to lecture in their Lodges. It was agreed at our Annual Convention that I should accept this invitation and, commencing in April, I made a tour of four and a half months in the Australian States. While in Sydney I was resident at The Manor, a consecrated centre through which flow certain forces necessary for the right growth and development of the young countries of the Pacific. Destined in their turn to become the centre of world civilization, they will in due time build an Empire whose culture, learning and vision will encircle the world. In this work Theosophy has an important part to play and the drawing together of our two Sections has strengthened the work.

Annual Convention.—The 51st Annual Convention was held in Dunedin during the last week in December, 1947. It co-incided with the centenary celebrations of the City of Dunedin and the Mayor most courteously sent us a message of greeting. A special feature of the Convention was its spirit of true and spontaneous friendliness and brotherly feeling. There was a sense of happiness as of a family come together, a feeling of "home" as we worked.

Membership.—There have been 60 incoming members this year and 64 outgoing, making a decrease of 4 and bringing the total membership to 926.

Annie Besant Centenary.—The hundredth anniversary of Annie Besant was celebrated with great joy in our country. On October 1st, 1947, gatherings of members honoured this great servant of humanity—all were blessed as a wave of her influence swept

through the land. A special issue of *Theosophy in New Zealand* was published.

United Nations Day.—In accordance with the resolution of the General Council of our Society, Lodges co-operated in giving support to UN and some very fine gatherings were held on 26th June. The Section subscribes to the official UN magazine; other UN magazines are finding a place on Lodge Library tables. On many Sunday evenings throughout the year public lectures have been given on the subject of a United World.

Miss Mary Graham.—Our Section has been fortunate this year in having Miss Mary Graham, many years Vice-President of the Wellington Lodge, resident at Adyar. She officially represented New Zealand at the International Convention in Benares in December, 1947, and has very faithfully kept us in touch with Adyar activities.

European Relief.—Good work has been done in sending food and clothing parcels to European members whose names have been supplied by the central committee in London, and in addition the Theosophical Women's Association, Lodges and individual members have "adopted" Lodges and members in Europe. Many beautiful letters of gratitude have been received.

Vasanta Garden School Honours Board.—A Vasanta Garden School Memorial Book case and Honours Board on which are inscribed the names of pupils who made the great sacrifice and those who served overseas in World War II, was unveiled by the Hon. H. G. R. Mason on Sunday, 7th December, 1947. Miss G. M. Hemus, President of the New Zealand Theosophical Educational Trust Board, presided.

Theosophy in New Zealand.—Our Section journal has been published quarterly during the year. There have been two special issues: the Annie Besant Centenary number and the Convention number illustrated to

feature our new Headquarters. The magazine is quite widely appreciated overseas as well as in New Zealand.

Lecturers in the Field.—Chief lecturer in the field this year has been Mr. Geoffrey Hodson who has toured widely through the country and given great help to Lodges and members individually. Mrs. W. Crawford visited several Lodges and was warmly welcomed in all. Mr. H. H. Banks, though spending most of his time in Auckland, has done some travelling and fired members with his enthusiasm.

Theosophical Order of Service.—Under the inspiration of the Head Brother, Miss Sandra Chase, an excellent campaign was carried out during Animal Welfare Week in October. Under the direction of the Council of Combined Animal Welfare Organizations, with Mr. Geoffrey Hodson as President, field workers throughout the Dominion secured over 21,000 signatures to a Petition to Parliament for the compulsory reintroduction of the use of mechanically operated instruments—out of use during the war—to kill instantly, or stun, all animals killed in New Zealand abattoirs. If necessary a Bill will come before Parliament to implement the Petition.

The Theosophical Women's Association.—In Christchurch this Association co-operated with the National Council of Women in a great Peace Rally opened by the Mayoress in April, 1948. There was a spirited debate on the true foundations for world peace and Lady Baden Powell spoke on "Youth's Opportunities". The following resolution was passed at the close: "That this meeting affirms its whole-

hearted support of the United Nations Organization in all its work for the establishment and maintenance of International Peace, and urges that more women be appointed to its committees and commissions."

50 Year Honours.—The following members of the New Zealand Section have the honour of completing 50 years of membership: Miss Irene G. L. Hemus and Miss Ida L. Burton in 1947 and Miss Geraldine M. Hemus and Mr. Henry B. Free in 1948.

Young Theosophists.—Young Theosophists have been active this year: their numbers are on the increase. They help considerably on Lodge committees and on the platform and publish their own magazine, *The Torch*.

Mr. H. H. Banks has done excellent work among the children, enrolling many new members in the Golden Chain and the Order of the Round Table of which he is Chief Knight for New Zealand. Work with the young is to him an absorbing interest and an ever increasing delight.

Conclusion.—The Theosophical Society has, as yet, but laid the foundations of the coming edifice of world-thought which will be erected by the race-mind of the future. Into that edifice the vision of a world-unity must be strongly built and the dynamic truths of the Ancient Wisdom become the living stones of the interior structure. Only through such building can a world peace be established and a new age open for creative endeavour.

E. HUNT,

General Secretary.

NETHERLANDS

During the year under review the membership of the Netherlands Section of the Theosophical Society increased from 1742 to 1832, a gain of 5%. More important than this figure, perhaps, is the fact that the number of young people, applying for membership, is increasing much more rapidly than the number of older applicants. In September 1948 the roll of membership counted 120 persons under 30 years of age. In some of the bigger cities there are comparatively large groups of young Theosophists. In 's Gravenhage (the Hague), 115 young people attended a talk given by Rukmini Devi during her stay in Holland. At Delft University a centre of student members of the T. S. has been formed. It is hoped that this process of rejuvenation, which is beginning to show itself quite clearly, will have a marked influence on the work of the T. S. in the present period of spiritual rearmament. The organization of young Theosophists is doing very useful work in attracting young people, by admitting as members many who have not yet joined the T. S., but are interested in the teachings.

The visit by Rukmini Devi, who arrived by plane on June 12th and stayed for about a month in the international centre, Huizen, proved again a beneficent factor of great value in our work. She attended our national convention, held on June 26 and 27, at which she gave a talk to members and showed films of Kalakshetra and the Montessori Training Centre at Adyar. She also gave two talks at 's Gravenhage, one to members in general and one especially for young people. She conquered her audience everywhere by her charming personality and the wisdom of the heart, presented in clear and beautiful language.

Two new Lodges, one at Amsterdam, the fourth in this city of nearly a million inhabitants, and one at Bilthoven, in the neighbourhood of Utrecht, were formed. As the three existing Lodges at 's Gravenhage joined forces, the total number of Lodges was not increased.

The publication of the Section magazine, predicted in last year's report, became a fact. On the 1st of March, 1948, the first issue of the 49th year of *Theosofia* saw the light. Before, since the liberation of Holland, a sectional paper of limited scope, for circulation to members only, had been published.

The contact with neighbouring countries was not neglected. In the first months of the year the undersigned made a tour in Belgium, in the Flemish-speaking Lodges. With Mr. J. E. van Dissel, General Secretary of the European Federation of Theosophical Societies, and Mr. J. Kruisheer, he attended the first German Convention after the war, held at Hamburg in the last week of July. At the Workers' week in Sweden, which took place during the first half of August, 13 members of the Netherlands Section were present. In September the General Secretary accepted an invitation from the Welsh Section of the T. S., to lecture at their Convention, held on September 10, 11 and 12 at Cardiff.

The list of books in the Netherlands language, edited by our publishing committee, is increasing rapidly. Since the liberation of our country a dozen have been published and several more are in preparation.

J. N. VAN DER LEY,
General Secretary.

FRANCE

The forward march of the Theosophical Society in France during 1948 is the normal result of the Society's progress during the years which have passed since the Liberation. The number of members and Lodges grows regularly. The percentage of members to Lodges is no doubt higher in other national Sections, but that is not, in France, a new characteristic.

An event of importance in 1948 has been the appearance for the first time of the publication *La Vie Théosophique*. For many months, under the auspices of the European Federation, negotiations have been under way with other Sections using the French language to enlarge the limited scope of our *Bulletin Théosophique* and to replace it by a periodical which would render greater service, permitting particular Sections of weak vitality to offer their members a magazine such as they would be unable to edit with their own resources alone. The first number of *La Vie Théosophique* appeared in April and this periodical is the official organ of the Swiss Section as well as of the French Section. A few months later the European Federation asked us to make it also the mouthpiece for the Theosophical Society in Europe for the French speaking countries, a request which was naturally granted. We can permit ourselves to believe that in time the international character of *La Vie Théosophique* will continue to develop and receive new blessings.

There is little to say about the lectures and Conventions held at the General Headquarters in Paris. It is an important base for our activities but there was no special event which stands out for particular mention this year. We can however point out that the course of lectures delivered by Professor Marcault, of which summaries were sent to the provincial Lodges, was a resounding success.

Numerous groups exist in the Provinces and in France Overseas, some of which manifest most promising activity and even realization. Others have to cope with local difficulties, but will no doubt develop, once these have been overcome. In Morocco, Casablanca has been able to acquire a fixed Headquarters with conference hall, well situated, thanks to the devotion of the local members, which gives good grounds for hope for the future.

The state of health of the General Secretary has caused a heavy burden to fall again this year on his colleagues in the Secretariat. Because of economic difficulties, it is more difficult than before the war to find honorary workers and our finances do not permit us to engage the paid workers we would need for the work of Headquarters to function smoothly, without overwork for some.

A number of foreign visitors have passed through Paris. Amongst these were Srimati Rukmini Devi, who came twice, first in the Spring when she presided over a *Lotus Blanc* evening, and again in November. Dr. L. J. Béndit presided over our National Convention and Mr. N. Sri Ram, Mr. and Mrs. James Perkins, Mr. and Mrs. J. Bonjer and Mr. J. E. van Dissel were all welcome visitors.

Several members of the French Section, amongst whom were the General Secretary and Mme. S. Bock of the Headquarters Staff, attended the meetings at Stockholm and at Mariefred, and, at these meetings, it was decided that a European Convention should be held in France in 1949. The work of preparation for this was undertaken immediately on their return to Paris.

Membership.—Two new Lodges were founded during the year and two which had been dormant were revived. There are now 44 Lodges in the Section. The

membership shows a gain of 221 members during the year, making a total of 2,236 active members.

The Publishing House, *Adyar*, which functions at our Headquarters, has, as in the past, contributed to the spreading of our ideals in publishing *Le Lotus Bleu* and by publishing or reprinting a large number of books on Theosophy.

During the course of the National Convention the Executive Council obtained the approval, by a large majority, on its decisions on the subject of a foundation to be constituted with a

part of the inheritance from our sister Mme North-Siegfried, a decision which was strongly criticized by some. The Executive Council does not pretend to any infallibility of judgment, but having under the circumstances acted according to its conscience and for the best Theosophic interests which the Testatrix had at heart, it was happy to obtain the approval of the assembly.

PAUL THORIN,
General Secretary.

ITALY

The Italian Section has been active during the year. Many Lodges worked methodically with the aim of creating thought-forms suitable for spiritual uplift, to enable souls to resist the rolling waves of atheistic materialism, which disturb the conscience of the masses, so anxious for material conquest and full of the urge to rebel.

The General Secretary, by means of the *Bolletino* and circulars, made a constant appeal to the Lodges to stress the grave moral aspect of the world's crisis, and the weight of responsibility of the Society to educate public opinion. He has therefore urged all members to hold positions of public service: masonic, religious, etc., to utilize all opportunities for the diffusion of Theosophical principles and purpose, pressing active co-operation for the solution of actual problems in the light of Theosophy.

With the help of Lodges in the major Centres such as Rome, Milan, Turin, Florence, Bari and Palermo, it was possible to celebrate White Lotus Day with stress on Education and Universal Brotherhood and with special reference to the Constitution of the United Nations. The Italian Section has chosen November 17th for the

celebration of the Day of Universal Brotherhood. It will be celebrated with public meetings in accordance with the ideas expressed above and, in larger Centres, with the co-operation of other Associations interested in Peace problems.

The General Secretary has lately undertaken the task of encouraging the publication in Italian of the Theosophical books mostly out of print in that language. A committee has been appointed to collect funds and supervise publication. The General Secretary, in accordance with the wishes of the Executive Council, has entitled our *Bulletino*, *Alba Spirituale* or *Spiritual Dawn*, aiming at transforming it gradually into a real, richer, and varied Review. At present the greater difficulty is the scarcity of collaborators. Most of the work falls on the General Secretary, who is both Director and Editor responsible for the Review. We now issue 1000 copies of our *Bolletino* which are distributed to members of the Section and exchanged with other Sections and Italian Spiritualist magazines.

There are now 34 Lodges and 5 Centres in the Section. The membership is 746, a gain of 46.

Our Italian Section feels heavily the repercussion of the serious conditions of the political national life, and material difficulties are pressing upon the majority of our members, all workers, beginning from the General Secretary who is a State Official, bound to his inherent duties. Nevertheless all mem-

bers who remained with the Society are giving all possible help for the diffusion of our aims for the welfare of the Society and the realization of the great Plan.

GIUSEPPE GASCO,
General Secretary.

GERMANY

The period from 1st October 1947 to 30th September 1948 was characterized by the steady growth of our membership and an intensification of the activities of our Lodges and Centres. The reports of the Lodges show that some of them have still been hampered by the lack of suitable rooms for their meetings but the members have, nevertheless, come together regularly even under the most unfavourable circumstances. Most of the Lodges have held meetings for the members and meetings for guests. The largest and most active Lodges, especially those at Hamburg, Berlin and Düsseldorf, have had regular Introductory Courses and Study Circles. At the Adyar Lodge at Hamburg another member is responsible for each meeting so that every member in turn gets the opportunity to speak, to give an address and to learn to work for the Lodge. At the Blavatsky Lodge in Berlin an English

member, working in the British Military Government there, has given English lectures for those members who know English. The two Lodges in Berlin have exchanged lecturers. The two Lodges at Hamburg have celebrated together Dr. Besant's hundredth birthday, the 17th November, Christmas, the Adyar Day, the White Lotus Day and have met on other occasions. Dr. Besant's Centenary Jubilee as well as the White Lotus Day have been solemnly celebrated by our Lodges. Everywhere the members are enthusiastic and eager to spread Theosophy as far as possible. The high percentage of unattached members (136 out of 556) is due to the fact that it is not yet possible to work effectively in the Russian Zone but all the members there are greatly looking forward to the time when they will be able to work as freely as is done in the British and American Zones.

Our statistics are:

Membership on 1st October 1947	...	304
Increase from 1st October 1947 till 30th September 1948	...	261
Died	...	1
Dropped	...	8
Transferred to other Sections	—	
Total loss	...	9

Membership on 1st October 1948 ... 556
8 new Lodges and 1 Centre have been founded during this period,

Mr. Heinz Nagel, president of the Adyar Lodge at Hamburg, gave a public lecture at Hannover in October 1947 on "The World Conception of Theosophy" and has addressed groups of young Socialists at Hamburg. Mr. Reinhard Flemming, president of the Lodge at Dortmund has given there a public lecture entitled "The Spiritual World Conception of Theosophy." Dr. Günter Zühlendorf, member of the Adyar Lodge at Frankfurt a.M., gave there three public lectures in January and February 1948: (1) "The Theosophical Movement, its Nature and Main Goal" ("Die theosophische Bewegung, ihr Wesen und Hauptziel"), (2) "Indian Mysticism and the Occident" ("Indische Mystik und Abendland"), (3) "Mysteries of the Soul and of Nature" ("Geheimnisse der Seele und der Natur"). The result of these has been the forming of a Study Group under the guidance of Dr. Zühlendorf.

Mr. Ernst Pieper has continued to publish his excellent type-written Circular Letter (Mitteilungsblatt der Blavatskyloge, Düsseldorf). Mr. Reinhard Flemming has started a small type-written Circular Letter for his Lodge, Praktische Theosophie, at Dortmund. We do hope that it will be possible in the near future to start a News Bulletin of the German National Society which is urgently needed.

Once more, as already in my last Annual Report, I am, in the name of all the German members, giving the heartiest thanks for the generous help which has been given by Adyar, by the European Federation and many Sections and members in the form of food, clothes, books, magazines and writing paper. Our special thanks are due to Miss Eunice Petrie, Mrs. Adelaide Gardner and Captain Paul from the London Office for the great trouble they have taken to collect, to pack and to send all the gifts of food, clothes and books. Thanks to this splendid help our Sectional Library at Hamburg has

now 285 English and 240 German books. The Library is used by many members and books are sent everywhere in Germany. Mr. Ernst Pieper at Düsseldorf has a very fine Lodge Library of about 1000 books which are at the disposal of his members and guests.

Seven German Lodges and 70 members have been adopted by Lodges and members in Great Britain who are sending them parcels. Moreover each Lodge in Germany has received food parcels from the American Section this summer.

Mrs. Martha R. Pellan, Chicago, U.S.A., has sent about 300 German copies of the President's pamphlet *Tenets of Theosophy* and two parcels of a German edition of J. Krishnamurti's *At the Feet of the Master*. The money needed for the multiplying of these publications has been given mostly by non-members in Chicago who are interested in the spiritual regeneration of Germany. This is really remarkable!

Miss M. R. Walker, Manchester, England, has taken the trouble to make type-written copies of a slightly abbreviated version in German of *At the Feet of the Master* and has sent 50 copies for free distribution. The Swiss Section has published *Is and Is-to-Be* by the President, in German. This edition is now available for Germany.

The greatest gift has been the new German edition of the President's book *First Principles of Theosophy*, with the title *Die okkulte Entwicklung der Menschheit*, printed in Paris. 2000 copies have been distributed to German prisoners of war in France. 3000 copies are on sale and stored in Paris under Mr. Bock's care (Edition Adyar). Copies can be ordered, too, from Mr. Ernst Pieper, Düsseldorf, Lindemannstrasse 27. I have received letters from several prisoners of war who have been so deeply impressed by this book

that they have asked for more information about our work and for more literature.

This manifold help given so abundantly is overwhelming. We shall try to prove worthy of it in every respect.

One of our members, Dr. Herbert Fritsche, Bad Pyrmont, Friedenstrasse 1, has started a magazine *Merlin*, Schriftenreihe für Grenzwissenschaften und Schicksalskunde. It is not precisely Theosophical but it is propagating Theosophy and its ideals. The first number, published in September, contains a very interesting introduction, "Merlins Wiederkehr" (Merlin's Return) and an important article "Annie Besant und die Wahrheit" (Annie Besant and the Truth) by Dr. Fritsche. The number contains moreover a very poetical translation by Dr. Fritsche of a passage from *The Voice of the Silence* by H. P. Blavatsky, an article about the Chakras by Dr. Friedrich Schwab and most instructive articles by other well known authors. This magazine may become a very useful means for spreading Theosophical ideals.

In October Direktor Martin Boyken was in Switzerland for a fortnight. He visited the Lodges at Geneva, Basle and Zurich and spoke to the members there about "Mystik und Yoga" and "Das Wesen der theosophischen Arbeit" (The Nature of the Theosophical Work). His visit was the first personal contact between the German Section and abroad. He greatly enjoyed the generous hospitality and friendliness of the Swiss members. This first contact has been very useful indeed.

From February 21st to April 16th 1948 I was in Switzerland as a guest of the European Federation to recover from a chronic nephritis and great exhaustion. I stayed for 6½ weeks at Mrs. Gertrud Kern's wonderful home at Minusio and have well recovered under her friendly care

in this marvellous climate. I addressed twice the members of Mrs. Kern's Lodge and once the members of Signore de Pedroni's Lodge at Locarno. On my way back I stayed a few days at Mr. and Mrs. Scheffmacher's home at Basle and greatly enjoyed their generous hospitality as well as the meetings of the Lodge and the Young Theosophists there, where I gave a talk. From Basle I went to Rapperswil (Züricher See) where I was the guest of Mr. Kläsi, the Treasurer of the Swiss Section, in his picturesque home. He had spent the Easter Holidays at Locarno from where he took me to Lugano on Easter Monday and to San Bernardino in Graubünden the next day in his beautiful car. From Rapperswil he drove me to Zürich on April 15th where I addressed the members of the two Lodges there. On April 16th I went back to Munich full of gratitude to Mr. van Dissel and the European Federation, who had given me the opportunity of this two month's stay in Switzerland, and to the Swiss members for all their friendliness and hospitality.

The most important event in the last twelve months has been our first Convention after the war, held at Hamburg from July 27th to 31st under the auspices of the Theosophical Society in Europe and the presidency of its General Secretary, Lt.-Col. J. E. van Dissel. He has been indefatigable in his readiness to help and to give advice. He took every opportunity to tell us that the German National Society is fully recognized as an integral part of the Theosophical Society in Europe and he stressed the international character of the work to be done in the future. His presence as well as that of Mrs. Doris Groves, the General Secretary of England, of Professor J. N. van der Ley, the General Secretary of Holland, and of Mr. J. Kruisheer from Huizen has been of invaluable help to every one

present. We have moreover had the great pleasure to have a member of the American Section in our midst, Captain Northam of the American Military Government, who came specially from Frankfurt to spend two days with us at our Convention. This was a manifestation characteristic of the American spontaneity and sympathy with our work. Captain Northam addressed our members and his words made a very deep impression. These guests from abroad have brought us much of the world-wide spirit reigning in the Theosophical Society. They have been for all of us a living proof that our National Society is heartily welcome as a co-worker in the big task to be done by the Theosophical Society, and they must have felt how grateful we are that they had taken so much trouble to come over to Hamburg.

Though—owing to the money reform which has been a catastrophe for millions of Germans—only about 90 members could attend the Convention, nearly all the Lodges were represented either by their presidents or by official delegates. Even from Berlin one member had come with the greatest difficulties. Many problems and divergences of opinion were freely discussed. Everybody present was happy to have again the opportunity to meet after the long and hard time of utter isolation, to renew old friendships and to form new ones. Plans were made for the work in the immediate future. May the circumstances be favourable for their realization!

On July 30th Direktor Martin Boyken, Hamburg 39, Rotbuchenstieg 40, was elected as General Secretary. His term of office is beginning on October 1st. It will greatly facilitate the administrative work of our National Society that the new General Secretary is living at our Headquarters. At the opening and the closing of the Convention Piano Trios from Mozart and Beethoven were excellently

performed. Our guests have enormously enriched the Convention by their interesting and inspiring lectures. Lt.-Col. van Dissel spoke about "Die Arbeit der Theosophischen Gesellschaft und die Europäische Föderation" (The Work of the Theosophical Society and the European Federation), Mrs. Groves on "Theosophy and Modern Problems", Professor van der Ley on "Die moderne Wissenschaft im Lichte der Theosophie" (Modern Science in the Light of Theosophy), Mr. Kruisheer on "Okkultismus und Pseudo-Okkultismus" (Occultism and Pseudo-Occultism), Mr. Boyken gave a lecture on "Die Zukunftsaufgabe der Theosophischen Gesellschaft in Deutschland" (The Future Task of the Theosophical Society in Germany), Mr. Heinz Nagel on "Die Theosophie im Dienste des Friedens" (Theosophy in the Service of Peace), Mr. Axel von Fielitz-Coniar on "Wie können wir helfen?" (How can we help?). All these lectures were for members only. Mr. Martin Boyken junior gave a well attended public lecture about "Die geistige Situation der Gegenwart und die Theosophie" (The mental situation of the Present Time and Theosophy) which was very instructive.

One can say without exaggeration that this first Convention has been a great success and that everybody present went home with a feeling of deepest gratitude to those who have worked hard for many months to make this Convention possible, and with the conviction that our National Society will continue to grow steadily. Hearty thanks are due to the British Military Government at Hamburg which graciously gave its consent to the holding of this Convention and made it possible for our four guests from Great Britain and Holland to attend it.

Thanks to an extraordinarily rich gift of food from the American Section, sent for this special purpose, excellent

meals were given to all the members at a Hotel near the buildings where the meetings were held. The General Secretary and Mr. Boyken have sent a special letter of thanks to Mr. Perkins. Our Theosophical Society is really a marvellous unity!

If the money reform had not frustrated so many plans 24 German members would have attended the Theosophical Workers' Week at Mariefred in Sweden but only seven had the wonderful opportunity to be present there: Direktor Martin Boyken, Mr. Heinz Nagel and myself as official delegates and guests of the Theosophical Society in Europe, our Treasurer, Mr. Gustav Sinzinger (Hamburg), Mrs. Else Boyken, Mrs. Frauenstein and Mrs. Kuska, all from Hamburg. The three delegates attended the meetings of the Council of the Theosophical Society in Europe at Stockholm on August 5th and 6th. I attended moreover the meetings of the Executive Committee at Stockholm and Mariefred. At the latter place I gave a lecture about "Art in the Light of Theosophy" (in German). No words can adequately describe what it has meant for the German members to be able again to attend an international Theosophical gathering. We were living in an atmosphere of heartiness, generous hospitality, beauty and peace of nature and felt like people who, after a long stay in a dark room, were for the first time walking again in the sunshine and fresh air. The week spent at

Mariefred was filled with spiritual strength and it has been a marvellous experience to meet there many dear friends from the past and to find new ones. I am specially glad to have had the opportunity of bringing personally vivid thanks to the Swedish members who have given so extraordinary and generous hospitality to children of German members for six and more months. I myself have gladly experienced the rich Swedish hospitality in the artistic home of Mr. and Mrs. Wikström and their helpful son Elis at Stockholm, where I have stayed for a few days after the Workers' Week, so that I could fully enjoy this wonderful capital. I shall never forget this fortnight in Sweden. Deepest thanks to the Theosophical Society in Europe which has enabled me to go there and to all the dear friends in Sweden who have spoiled me in every respect!

Looking back on the last twelve months one can say that the work of and the happenings in the German Section are forming a constant crescendo culminating in the Convention at Hamburg and the experiences of the seven German members in Sweden. Bishop Leadbeater's last words were "Carry on!" I think that I can say in the name of the German members in full confidence; We *shall* carry on!

AXEL VON FIELITZ-CONIAR,

General Secretary.

CUBA

Lodges	...	...	21
Members	...	...	592
An increase of	...	...	28

HUNGARY

I beg to submit to you in the following a report of the activities of the Theosophical Society in Hungary, covering the year October 1, 1947 to September 30, 1948.

Although one cannot say that we have expanded numerically, still I think that the assertion that our work did expand in intensity and consequently probably also in usefulness is not exaggerated. Since a somewhat prolonged illness of the General Secretary in the past six months so many more members are taking an ever increasingly active part in the work that even illness has been for the good, not to speak of the benefit to all concerned of taking a greater share in the work and in its responsibilities.

Last year's Convention took place on October 4 and 5, 1947, with an attendance of 82. I have been unanimously re-elected General Secretary for three years, according to our newly amended rules. The Executive Committee has also been partly renewed: our former Secretary, Miss Melinda Aich, became Treasurer, and two members of our youth group, Mr. László Horváth and Mr. László Reicher were elected Secretary and Librarian respectively.

Membership.—Gains: joinings 22. losses: resignings 7, transfer to other Sections 1, death 1, lapsing 13, which make 22, so that the total of our members remains the same as last year: 191.

Meetings at Headquarters.—Our Headquarters is proving more and more inadequate to hold our audiences. For the present there is no hope of altering this fact, because there is no possibility of getting a bigger flat. We had, as usual, weekly members' meetings with lectures, symposia, questions and artistic performances, with an average attendance of 60 as against 56 last year.

The informal summer meetings to which serious enquirers were also admitted and where the contribution of the members to the discussions had remarkably improved, showed an average attendance of 72 as against 60 last year.

The Society's red letter days: White Lotus Day, Founders' Day and Adyar Day were duly celebrated.

Through the kindness of the Board of the Chamber of Lawyers who put their well situated and dignified hall gratuitously at our disposal, we were able to hold six public lectures with an average attendance of 98.

Several of our lecturers have been invited to speak in other kindred movements, for instance, in the Vegetarian Society and the Metaphysical Society.

Lodges.—One Lodge has been dissolved, in consequence of the passing of its founder and president, and another has been founded, the number of our Lodges thus remaining 7.

Youth.—As I have stated elsewhere, our young people take a prominent part in the work of the Society. The artistic meetings are always under their direction, and by two of them being members of the Executive Committee and a third, the President of the Youth Lodge, "ex officio" member of the National Council, they also take their share in the management, thus preparing themselves for future greater responsibilities. May I mention here that the majority of the Youth Lodge members also work in the Round Table and at the altar of the Liberal Catholic Church with enthusiasm and capability, having an innate propensity for ceremonial.

International Correspondence League.—Quite a number of our members are in correspondence with brethren in other countries, and this not only through the League, but induced by American parcels received. The Youth

Lodge, on its own account, writes letters to Young Theosophists in about 16 countries.

American Parcels.—I feel I must very gratefully state the fact that some of our members still receive parcels from America which are, of course, always very welcome, because, although the food supply of the country has very much improved, incomes can in no way match prices.

Visitors from Abroad.—To our great regret, the promised and planned visit of Dr. G. A. Vreede did not occur as he got his entrance permit into our country much too late. But we had the pleasure of receiving here the General Secretary of the Finnish Section, Mr. Armas Rankka, who came to Hungary on a Government errand and having to spend 8 days in Budapest had ample time to give us. So we arranged for some improvised meetings and excursions with him. Apart from hearing some news about the work of his Section, his presence also meant the strengthening of the link between two nations which are the only relatives of each other in Europe.

Printing and Publicity.—On account of the paper shortage, no books could be published during this past year. Our bi-monthly bulletin had also to be stopped for the same reason. *First*

Principles of Theosophy and *The Hidden Side of Things*, however, are ready for the press and waiting for licence to be printed. In order to keep our members in the provinces in touch with current Theosophical events, they receive monthly letters and copies of the Headquarters lectures. Besides this, the Watch-Tower is translated each month and typed copies circulated among members. Dr. Annie Besant's *Universal Textbook of Religion* has also been translated and cyclostyled copies, the number of which, however, may not exceed 30, are being sold to members.

This report almost looks as if we had only been "marking time"; still, considering the amount of devotion and energy put into the work by our members in the midst of hardships and overwork in their daily life, it means really much more. We all look to Adyar and its great work with deep loyalty and are feeling its inspiring influence with profound gratitude.

For the coming Convention I am sending you, dear President, the best wishes for the fullest blessing of Those who are ever watching their Society, in the name of the whole Hungarian Section.

FLORA SELEVER,
General Secretary.

FINLAND

This year the Finnish Section has experienced a steady growth of energy. Every Lodge has been active and the membership of the Section has increased to 669, the gain being 54; the number of Lodges is as before, 23.

During the year there were no specially new activities but the Section was fortunate enough to welcome several distinguished visitors from other European Sections. At the Dr. Annie

Besant and Mr. C. W. Leadbeater Centenary festivals in November, Mr. Viking was the visiting lecturer and the programme included music and song. On the 5th of November Mr. Viking delivered a public lecture to a large audience in a hall near Headquarters. Afterwards he visited our youngest and far distant country Lodge, a rare experience for the members. The other very welcome visitors were Mr. and

Mrs. Ransom, who were invited to preside over the Summer School, our first one after the war. It was held July 22-29 in Helsinki at a modern school house surrounded by a pine forest. In addition to the Leaders, several members delivered lectures and talks, and an English member, Miss Florence Kenderdine, enriched the programme with her beautiful violin music. The Summer School was attended by 180 members from all parts of the country. Except for one day which was dedicated to a delightful boat excursion the days were so full that we were afraid that the programme was too tiring to our Leaders, to whom we are deeply grateful for this successful meeting; yet we do hope to see them soon again in our midst.

In September we were glad to have quite a group of Scandinavian visitors, namely Mr. Jorgen Winde and Mrs. Anna Viking from Denmark and Mr. and Mrs. Fjellander from Sweden. These visits were very unofficial, like short homely calls upon a near neighbour, and yet to all these friends this was their first visit to Finland. They made acquaintance with several Lodges in Helsinki and in the country, and at Headquarters there was arranged a party called 'Northern Evening' with talks and much singing.

The Section is very grateful to the European Federation for the aid which enabled 21 Finnish members to attend the Workers' Week at Mariefred, Sweden. To many of them it was the first international meeting and to all of them a powerful experience which is not readily forgotten. In the spring the General Secretary had an opportunity to pay a visit to Hungary and its neighbour countries, where he met many members who had suffered much during the war.

The Annual meeting was held at Easter with five separate meetings and the Convention festival, all of which were well attended. The official meet-

ing itself was short and unanimous. All the usual international Days were celebrated at the correct time.

The Section celebrated its 40 years in October with its many Founder-members as guests of honour. Another outstanding event was a public festival arranged in March in the big Labour Hall in Helsinki. The arranger of it was the Lodge Blavatski in Helsinki. The same Lodge has undertaken the duty of arranging question meetings for the public. These have been held every other Saturday and they have been fairly well attended also by non-members.

During the spring public lectures were given every other Sunday at the Headquarters with several members as lecturers. In connection with the Besant Centenary and the Section's 40 year festivities almost every Lodge in the country arranged a public lecture.

The Lotus children in Helsinki have been very active. They gather joyfully every Sunday to play and read and sing under the leadership of two enthusiastic teachers.

As to the Youth work, some young members have taken steps towards encouraging young people to take interest in this work. A discussion group has met once a fortnight to study and talk together and the members of it seem to be interested.

As usual the General Secretary and some members of the bigger Lodges have made lecture tours to the smaller and far away country Lodges. Circular study letters have been sent regularly to all Lodges and unattached members to keep them in touch with Helsinki Headquarters. News from Adyar and Huizen has been published in the Section Magazine *Theosophy*, which, due to the continuing shortage of paper, was published partly in double issues.

The following pamphlets were published: *Some Words on Theosophy*; *What is Theosophy*; *Theosophy, Life*

and Man. They were written by three members, and the publication was made possible by the generous gift of a member who wants to remain unknown. The pamphlets have been distributed by post and in all public meetings throughout the Section.

Due to the inflation the means and funds of the Section have been invested in the best securities.

During the year several fine parcels of useful clothing were received from the Theosophical Society in America, to whom we are very grateful.

ARMAS RANKKA,
General Secretary.

RUSSIA

Section Dissolved 1946

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Presidential Agency

In this Country we have started our winter series of lectures. They are very well attended and there is really an interest in what Theosophy has to say. New members join regularly so our numbers grow slowly. Though we are still a few yet the growth is rapid as compared to the years before the war. After nearly every lecture a new member joins so we have the pleasure

of feeling that our work is not in vain. Of course this means much work to prepare the lectures and to do the work of the office. We are changing our Regulations and we want to print books if we can obtain permission to do so.

PAN VACLAV CIMR,
Presidential Agent.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

The year under review has been one of steady expansion and much activity everywhere. With the valued help of all Officers and Members of the National Executive Committee, several new enterprises have been embarked upon.

Committee.—We have deeply felt the loss of our very dear Secretary Miss E. J. Clarke, who passed over in September and left a great gap in our ranks, where she had given so loyally of her efficient services.

We were glad, however, that Miss Ford was found willing to take over the office of National Secretary.

In terms of the Constitution, your Committee co-opted another two members: Mr. R. Webster, who acted as National Librarian, and Mr. K. M. Pillay.

Lodges and Centres.—In reviewing the position of the Lodges and Centres during the last year, I am very glad to be able to report the formation of two new Centres, one in *Lourenco Marques*,

which was opened in July and one in Witbank in October.

There are also study-groups in Pietermaritzburg, Salisbury and Rustenburg. All the Lodges have shown good activity during the year. Most of them have been actively engaged in Race Relations work and other forms of service.

The Lodge syllabuses show a high standard of public lectures and regular members' meetings are held everywhere. In Rhodesia great difficulties are felt owing to the scattered membership. In such cases the libraries do good work, and the new correspondence course will be much welcomed.

Lecturers.—During the latter part of the year we had the pleasure of welcoming Bishop and Mrs. Bonjer to our Section. Mrs. Bonjer has given a very interesting series of lectures in the Johannesburg, Pretoria, Capetown and Durban Lodges, and we are very grateful for her contribution to the work of Theosophy. Also Mrs. Beatrice Ensor from the Cape, on her return from England, has lectured in George and Johannesburg.

Through the services of the "Panel of Speakers" it was possible to arrange for exchange of speakers between the Lodges, and small Centres could also be helped.

Pretoria sponsors a monthly lecture in Afrikaans.

Membership.—Our membership during 1947 shows a satisfactory increase. We started the year with 533 members on the roll. There were 86 new admissions, 9 re-admissions, and 2 transfers from other Sections, making a grand total of 97 new members; this is a record over many years.

Against this we lost 27 members by resignation, 6 by death, 31 lapsed and one was transferred to another Section; so we have to offset our gain by 65, leaving a net increase of 32 members.

Total membership now stands at 565.

New Pamphlets.—The new pamphlet *Information for Enquirers* was the outcome of a pressing demand from the Lodges. A list of books recommended for study has also been printed separately for the use of our librarians. Another pamphlet, written by Mr. Mitford-Barberton, was translated into Afrikaans by Miss Cillie, and is also ready. It is called *Die Plan vir Suid-Afrika*.

Advertisements.—The Lodges were asked to advertise in local newspapers; some 400 letters and 1,200 pamphlets have been sent.

Translations.—The most important translations completed during 1947 were: Mr. C. W. Leadbeater's booklet *The Life After Death*, translated by Mr. du Plessis, who is now busy on the translation of Mr. Kruisheer's *Elementary Theosophy*, and Miss Mimi Cillie's translation of Mr. Jinārājādāsa's *Practical Theosophy* and *The Plan for South Africa* already mentioned. Besides these, Dr. Annie Besant's book *Reincarnation* is now ready in Afrikaans and is on sale. This was a special Centenary issue.

We have now ready in Afrikaans the following books and pamphlets:

An Outline of Theosophy, C. W. Leadbeater.

At the Feet of the Master, Alcyone.

Reincarnation, A. Besant.

To Those Who Mourn, C. W. Leadbeater.

The Tenets of Theosophy, C. Jinārājādāsa.

Information for Enquirers.

The Plan for South Africa.

Our thanks go especially to Miss Cillie and Mr. du Plessis.

Section Library.—The first year of our Section Library has been a successful one. Many books were sent to unattached members and to enquirers.

Boxes of books were sent to the small groups which have not yet been able to build up a local library.

Institute for Theosophical Publicity in S. A.—The I. T. P. is steadily growing, adding to its stocks and capital. We appreciate the gesture of printing a Centenary Issue of Dr. A. Besant's book *Reincarnation in Afrikaans*. Difficulties of obtaining books from Adyar have been overcome by the kind help of a member in Lourenco Marques.

International Correspondence League.—Mr. J. G. Beattie has been appointed as the Secretary for our Section. The fact that 104 members, or nearly 20% of our members, have enrolled themselves for correspondence, is an important one. Not all of these have yet been linked up with pen-friends, but this is now being arranged, and we are in this way in communication with 12 different countries.

Captain Lloyd Jones Fund.—The books which were received by courtesy of Capt. Lloyd Jones (*Essential Unity of all Religions*) have all been distributed, and a report has been sent to the initiator of this campaign.

Annie Besant Centenary Celebrations.—All Lodges arranged a special Centenary Programme and in most places special articles were written and inserted in the local Press, also in Afrikaans. The Centenary issue of *The Link* was accompanied by a gift to every member of Dr. Besant's pamphlet: *Theosophy as a Philosophy of Thought and Action*. These were ordered from Adyar for that occasion. The same gift was extended to the membership of the whole world by their respective Sections. We are most grateful to Mr. Albert Coates for composing the music to Dr. Besant's *True Prayer*, a copy of which was sent to every Lodge and to Adyar.

I think all of you have been aware of a feeling that our great leader was near us at our celebrations, when our combined power of devotion went out to her with a renewed dedication to the cause of our Society.

Race Relations.—The interest in matters of Race Relations has not weakened. Our Section was represented at the Congress in Capetown.

Clara Codd Pension Trust Fund.—The steady increase of this fund is a great token of our Section's appreciation of Miss Codd's work. Also other Sections and friends contribute to this fund.

We are delighted that we shall be able to welcome Miss Codd in our midst again towards the end of 1948.

The Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund.—Approximately £360-0-0 has been sent to Adyar from generous donations received since the appeal was launched. Another £100-0-0 had already been sent before this fund was opened, making a total of £460-0-0 from our members.

The Link.—Our Sectional Magazine *The Link* has had a successful year. We have adopted a new Cover Design, which was drawn by our artist member, Miss Ruby Reeves, and which symbolizes the Teachings of Theosophy coming to South Africa. Manuscript has always come in when required and I wish to thank all the authors for their valued co-operation.

The Link goes to 16 non-member subscribers, to all public libraries and to all other Sections in the world. It is regrettable that the resources of *The Link* do not cover expenditure, and so an appeal has to go out every year for donations. We are very grateful to all who have responded, especially to Sir Robert Kotze, who has never failed to give us a substantial grant. That our issue is appreciated by non-members is borne out by a very kind letter, which we receive every year from the Johannesburg Public Library, saying that it is much in demand.

Service Work.—Our Society through its Service Group Organization has been represented on the following Welfare Organisations: The National War Memorial Health Foundation, The

Penal Reform League, The Race Relation Institute and The Joint Council of Europeans and Africans.

Both the Johannesburg and Pretoria Lodges have a special Benevolent Fund to deal with the many appeals for help and support. The Durban Service Group also again assisted in giving a Christmas treat to 5,000 Bantu children. The Pretoria Lodge's "Children's Group" entertained right royally 140 children, European, Indian, Chinese and African to a Christmas Tree Party.

Service-works done by individual members of the various Lodges are too numerous to be enumerated separately but I will name a few to give you some idea of the varied programme of service in which some of the members in all the Lodges have participated during the year: Sending of parcels to distressed T. S. members in Europe; art classes, dancing and the teaching of other forms of self-expression to coloured children; the running of a boys' club and cultural group for young people; the starting of the Order of the Round Table at the Durban and Pretoria Lodges and the assisting at street collections for various charitable and humanitarian causes such as the S.P.C.A., Bantu Blind, Cripples' Care, Eoan Group, Penal Reform, Tumelong Mission and Social Services.

Conclusion.—I wish to take this opportunity to thank all the Officers and Committee members for their splendid co-operation, especially our thanks are due for the services of our Secretary, Miss Ford, our Registrar,

Miss Seymour, and our Treasurer, Mr. G. Bond.

In starting a new year, our thoughts go out to the world and the great crisis, the outcome of which will be so important for the welfare of humanity and our civilization in general. Our prayers go out for the success of the great work of the UNO and similar groups of idealistic men and women, on whom so much depends. Anxiety is felt everywhere and we can assist this great work by constructive speech, action and thought. Our President, Mr. Jinarājādāsa, has sent a special letter, requesting all Lodges to devote some of their study-meetings to the work of the UNO. When we think of Brotherhood there are two aspects that strike us, the first is the World Need, so let us support UNO as much as is in our power. The second is the need of South Africa. Our field here lies in the work for a betterment of race relations, where we can do our part.

Let us then in the coming year link ourselves even more strongly than before, with the Inner Government of the world and Their great Plan for humanity of which we are the agents; for our Society is Their Channel, and in Their Power we can do all things.

In that Power we shall be able to achieve the ideals that we stand for.

May Their Blessing be with us and with the World in the coming year.

J. ELEANOR STAKESBY-LEWIS,
General Secretary.

SCOTLAND

During the past year, the activities of the Society in Scotland have been generally quiet and unspectacular. Most of the existing meetings and other activities have been kept going, but there has been little in the way of new

work. In some respects there has been a slight falling off in attendances, especially in meetings of a more serious nature requiring concentrated mental effort; but this I find is not confined to Scotland. There appears to be a

general tendency in this direction in other quarters as well. This is probably due in large measure to a psychological and even a spiritual weariness, which is a reaction from the stress and strain of the war years, only now beginning to make itself fully felt, and also to the general unsettlement and uncertainty of the world situation, inducing in many people an attitude of weariness, and in some cases of defeatism.

In such a situation, a Society like ours is bound to be adversely affected in its appeal to the general public, yet there was never more need for the spread of the Theosophical teaching, with its inspiration and illumination, and its wide cosmic sweep, giving us that long-term view, without which we might well despair in the face of immediate world problems. It is for us, therefore, to keep Theosophy not only alive, but vitally alive so that such as are drawn to us may not come in vain, but find us faithful stewards and custodians of that great body of teaching which has meant so much to us, and which it is part of our duty and privilege to pass on to others. This is perhaps the most useful thing we can do in this difficult and perilous time of transition.

We have been able to draw more freely than hitherto on visiting lecturers. Since the beginning of the Autumn Session, we have had first and foremost, Mr. Sri Ram, whom we greeted with especial warmth on his first visit to Scotland, Dr. Hugh Shearman of Belfast, also paying his first visit, Mr. Hayes of London, and in the second half of the session, Mr. Alex Elmore and Mrs. Joyce Woodward, both of London, and both making their first appearance here. In addition, we had the pleasure of welcoming back to our platform an old friend in the person of Mr. Maine of Glasgow. All were greatly appreciated. For the remaining dates we called upon our

own lecturers to whom we are also much indebted.

In addition to these activities of a general nature, the various Districts and Lodges carry on their own particular work. In the Eastern District, the Edinburgh Lodge has continued to be responsible for the fortnightly group for the study of the *Mahatma Letters to A. P. Sinnett*; Morningside Lodge continued its fortnightly study of *Talks on the Path of Occultism*; Olcott Lodge takes its full part in the combined activities of the District, as well as continuing its own special work. As in former years the Orpheus Lodge has been responsible for the organising of the Friday afternoon Tea Talks, and in addition arranged for a series of lectures on subjects relative to the International Festival of Music and Drama, which aroused considerable interest, while the main activity of the Portobello Lodge is the fortnightly Astrology Groups. In addition to these, the fortnightly Class for the study of the *Secret Doctrine* has met from October to April. It is highly desirable that in every district of any considerable size there should be a group for the study of this great Theosophical classic, and our cordial thanks are due to Miss Harris who so ably conducts this Group.

In the western District, Glasgow Lodge started off with its usual activities, but two of these—the Speakers Class and the Astrological Group—were discontinued during the latter part of the Session, principally owing to the absence of the leaders on other work. The attendance at the Sunday Evening lectures was smaller than hitherto, but a change to the afternoons in the latter half of the Session, produced an improvement. This Lodge sustained a great loss in the departure of Mr. and Mrs. Hemsted for India, but our loss is Adyar's gain. The Lodge held a farewell meeting at which speeches

of appreciation were made and gifts presented. We wish them every success and happiness in their new sphere of activity. Annie Besant Lodge held monthly public lectures in addition to its regular Members' Meetings, and Langside, after enforced inactivity during the war years, has again opened up, with very gratifying results.

In the Northern District, the Dundee Lodge has just concluded its 37th year of work—a splendid record. The programme was mainly taken up with public lectures and members' meetings, and cordial thanks are due to the President, Mr. Durward, and the indefatigable Secretary, Miss Geddes. Dunfermline and Rosyth Lodges unite for Public Lectures and in addition each Lodge has its own activities.

The Library continues its work on the usual extensive scale, with 85 subscribers in addition to the Fellows of the Society, each of whom is allowed one book free of charge. There are now 7,130 volumes in the Library, which is kept constantly up to date both by purchases and gifts from members and others; and many Library members eventually find their way into the Society. The splendid work of the Library is due in no small measure to the unwearied work of the Librarian who deserves the grateful thanks of the whole Society.

I do not think that it is generally realised that Edinburgh has adopted a Theosophical German family in dire need; and in accordance with the arrangements of the Theosophical War Distress Relief Committee, several large parcels of clothing and food have been sent. So far, however, the work

of supplying these has fallen on a very few individuals, and I take the opportunity of making this work more widely known.

The membership at the end of last May was 391. During the year 10 members have died, 4 resigned, six have been transferred, and five suspended. On the other hand 24 have joined 3 former members have rejoined and 2 transferred from other Sections. The total membership is 395.

As regards my own activities during the year, I have visited all three of our Districts more than once, not merely to lecture but to keep in touch with the members. I have also visited the English Section—the Southern Federation, the Northern Federation and the North West Federation,—the last named on two occasions—as well as representing Scotland at the English Convention last month.

Needless to say, the year's work could not have been carried out without the loyal and devoted co-operation of the members throughout the whole Section, Lodge Officials, Lecturers, Workers at Headquarters, Members of all the various Committees, Members who gave hospitality to visiting lecturers, and the ordinary rank and file of the members. To mention all individually is impossible, and the attempt to do so would unduly prolong a Report which I fear, is already too long, so I shall conclude in a manner, which, though necessarily brief is all the more sincere and heart-felt by saying—'To one and all our thanks'.

EDWARD GALL,
General Secretary.

SWITZERLAND

The first event to be recorded is the election of the new General Secretary in Oct. 1947, the only reason for the election being that, in accordance with the rules of the Section, it was impossible to prolong Mme. Fanny Scheffmacher's term of office. We owe her a debt of gratitude for the devoted and conscientious work she has accomplished during six years and for the example of faithfulness, perseverance and gentleness she has given us. The new General Secretary took up her duties on the 1st Jan. 1948.

On May 2nd Srimati Rukmini Devi addressed the members assembled in the Headquarters at Geneva for the Convention, on the 3rd of May she gave a public lecture and on the 5th exhibited a film showing the activities and views of our great Headquarters at Adyar. Her lectures were the occasion for a renewed plunging into the the deep soul of India, for a communion with her age-old culture and for feeling the confidence in her destiny, in the role she will play in the new civilization which is preparing.

The General Secretary of the European Federation visited Geneva in May, representing the Society in the United Nations' session for "non-Governmental Associations." He was accompanied by a second delegate, Mr. Polak of London. On the 20th of May Mr. van Dissel addressed the members at Geneva. His visit remains a precious memory.

The outstanding event of the summer was the Summer School. In Switzerland such an activity needs to be carried on in at least two languages. The week's session from 3-11 July united the members in the villa inhabited by M. Sassi, in the country near Geneva. The curriculum had been so arranged that those participating could, if they so wished, follow both courses of lectures.

Summaries of the lectures both in French and German were duplicated for members.

Tours in Switzerland by Mme. Kamensky and the General Secretary.

Our Russian sister continues to be admirable as ever. In Geneva she takes part in all the programmes for public lectures, presides over Lodge *Peace and Light* and, as unofficial lecturer, gives two courses of lectures at the University. In September she visited the Centres at Locarno, Bâle, La Chaud de Fonds and Lausanne, everywhere giving talks to members and interested friends. She remains a grand example of courage and fidelity.

During September the General Secretary visited the Lodges in Italian, German and French Switzerland. Wherever she went she received a warm welcome and met brothers and sisters devoted to the living of Theosophy. Everywhere Lodge work went forward with regularity. In some of the big cities it has not yet been possible to organise public lectures, but preparations are being made for next season.

Geneva and Bâle send their lecturers here and there to help local work. At the Headquarters at Geneva the Tuesday lectures are devoted to Theosophical studies those on Saturdays are reserved for the divers representations of professors, ecclesiastics and thinkers of different communities who are in sympathy with our movement and are happy to avail themselves of the liberal platform which our invitation offers them. During the winter season the General Secretary gives a course of lectures for beginners.

There is great activity in Bâle also, regular meetings by the Lodges, and every month a friendly reunion of the three Lodges at the house of Mme. Scheffmacher and study classes for beginners. These are the chief features

of Theosophical life in our town on the banks of the Rhine.

Membership.—There are now 17 Lodges in this Section and 332 members, a gain of 14.

It gives us great pleasure to express our thanks to those General Secretaries who send us the Bulletins of their Sections. These are distributed among all the Lodges of the Swiss Section, so that one or another article may be used as a basis for study by the Lodge or be translated into one of the three languages of our nation. In this way we get a wider vision beyond the frontiers of our little country and every Swiss Theosophist is enabled to feel the pulse of Theosophic life in the world.

Order of Service.—From Jan. 1948 onwards Mlle. Hedwig Balmer succeeded Mlle. Roget as Chief Brother. It is she who during the whole of last winter has kept the German Theosophists supplied with foods, dried vegetables, and other goods. Clothes have also been sent to Austria and Germany. Mlle. Elizabeth Lyner, of Winterthur, has given her whole-hearted activity to the help of the Polish

Theosophists. The sacrifice of money, time and energy means nothing to this generous sister. Both Mlle. Balmer and Mlle. Lyner carry on a voluminous correspondence with their protégées.

Finance.—The Swiss Section lives entirely on its dues and it possesses no capital. The Order of Service is entirely dependent on voluntary contributions. Nearly the whole of our membership consists of those who work for their living.

Magazines.—Our members are extremely pleased with the new magazines: *Adyar* for German and *La Vie Théosophique* for French Switzerland. We continue our efforts to obtain more subscriptions to *The Theosophist* and we feel that each Lodge at least should have one subscription to keep up the link with our International Headquarters as it is the official organ of the President, and to bring each month news of that Adyar which so many Swiss Theosophists would wish to visit at least once in their life.

J. ROGET,

General Secretary.

BELGIUM

First and foremost, the Belgian Section was privileged in August to receive the most welcomed visit of the President Mr. C. Jinarājādāsa. Though the month was not very favourable, many of our members having their holidays at the time, his beautiful lectures gathered many members and public around him. We hope that when he visits Europe next time, the journey of the President may be arranged so that Belgium may benefit even more.

Our membership is 328. Many Lodges in the country have this year dropped from their lists the "heavy loads" one hardly ever sees at the

meetings; there was for instance a fall from 66 to 49 members in the Lodge "Annie Besant", Liège. But in general the Lodges are working well.

We have in Belgium 11 Lodges, 3 in Antwerp, 1 in Liège, 1 in Gand and 6 in Brussels, one of them a youth Lodge.

The weekly public lectures are very well attended, always large audiences. The Belgian Government gives us yearly a "subsidy", our lectures being recognized as of public utility. We had this year a very interesting lecture by Mr. Vernier, a well known official, upon U.N.E.S.C.O., and the counsellor

of the Prime Minister, Mr. Lambilliotte, spoke of "Le Sens Divin." Mr. De Ville, professor of oriental languages, spoke on the Bhagavad Gita. Moreover, many lectures were given by Theosophists on Theosophical teachings.

The Library and Bookshop work very well. We had monthly, this year, friendly teas at Headquarters which brought a very joyous atmosphere.

Our greatest aim for next year is the establishment of the Adyar Library, (a succursale in Belgium of the "Editions Adyar" of Paris). We shall thus have at Headquarters a complete bookshop. Our greatest difficulty is to clear the Headquarters of the tenant who occupies the whole ground-floor and hinders us from having the adequate space to open the shop. But nevertheless, we shall start in October with the space we have.

Last, not least, our Convention was particularly brilliant this year, thanks

to the beloved presence of Shrimati Rukmini Devi, accompanied by Mr. J.E. Van Dissel, General Secretary of the T. S. in Europe, Mme Van Dissel, delegate of the Dutch Section and Mlle Pascaline Mallet, delegate of the French Section. Shrimati Rukmini gave us much inspiration and left amongst all a most lasting impression. She was the President of honour of the Convention and brought to us a most magnificent blessing. We were happy to be able to admire the beautiful film of Kalakshetra, her well known School of Arts, the Besant School and the Arundale-Montessori School.

Though the conditions are difficult, we hope to awaken in Belgium a more spiritual look-out and feel that, in truth, little by little, the quality of the members increases.

SERGY BRISY,
General Secretary.

INDONESIA

Closing last year with four Lodges in Batavia, Bandoeng, Semarang and Soerabaja, this year saw the reincarnation of the Centre '*Penerangan*' in Soerabaja, Lodge *Girilojo* in Bandoeng and Lodge *Medan* in Medan.

Next to nothing is yet known about Lodges in Republican territory. According to news from brothers who returned from Djocdja and Solo to stay in Dutch controlled territory, shortly after the so-called "police action" all activities were stopped.

Loss of members on account of their repatriating has come to a standstill and several members have come back and immediately rejoined Lodge work. There is an increasing interest from the Chinese community, many becoming members. Among 36 new admissions there were 3 Indonesians, 10 Europeans and 23 Chinese, a reflection of

the political and economical conditions whereby Chinese people, fleeing from the unsafe inland districts and expelled by the Republic, are gathering in the larger cities in Dutch controlled territory.

We have now six Lodges and one Centre. There is a total membership of 165, a gain of 63.

The magazine issued from Soerabaja *De Kiem* was discontinued, as the stencilled monthly *Theosophie*, issued by the Batavia Lodge, has become popular and has increased in size.

This year a Convention was held in Bandoeng at Easter. Members of *Girilojo* Lodge wish to start to work the ceremony of the Mystic Star once more. They have to collect money for this as furniture was lost during the war.

There are some circumstances, the results of war and of political changes, the knowledge of which is necessary for a better understanding of the conditions under which we are working here in Indonesia. Externally these are: bad communications, very bad housing conditions, lack and dearness of domestic help. Internally: the uncertainty of the future, the positions of the European and especially of the Indo-European in the coming United States of Indonesia, in whose Federal Council no room has been reserved for minorities.

All this and a kind of war-relaxation too, are causing a looseness of living, wherein salvation is sought in dancing, movies and amusement, trying to escape the unpleasant things of everyday life. Only a few people give attention once more to cultural meetings such as those offered by the Theosophical Society.

External difficulties often make it impossible for our members to attend our meetings, while the internal difficulties cause much worry and withhold people from our lectures.

Many, and those the more intellectual of our members, have repatriated to Holland or have withdrawn into Republican territory. This has caused a great change in the average cultural level, people now being more of the emotional than of the intellectual type.

Having lost so many relatives in the war there is a large demand for knowledge about life and conditions after death, a looking for means to re-establish contact, spiritualism and yoga-practices drawing many people. Theosophical literature is often considered too intellectual, too mental, perhaps because of a kind of mental tiredness, the result of too much worry. For this reason many of us are trying

to conform to these changed conditions and to bring knowledge in forms adapted to them.

Notwithstanding all these difficulties, all these outgrowths, there is a growing desire for real knowledge, knowledge that can be the foundation for living and conduct.

All this must be a stimulation for bringing Theosophy in a practical form; no dull lectures about Karma, Re-incarnation, races, etc., but living stuff, practical knowledge, a kind of philosophers' stone, able to make from life something more than a routine-living, to give it some meaning and purpose, not only for our own selves, but more especially for all those with whom we feel to be linked.

As we have been told by a Master of the Wisdom: "Theosophy must not represent only a collection of moral verities, a bundle of metaphysical Ethics epitomized in theoretical dissertations. Theosophy must be made practical, and has, therefore, to be disencumbered of useless discussion..." It has to find objective expression in an "all embracing code of life thoroughly impregnated with its spirit, the spirit of mutual tolerance, charity and love..."

(H. P. Blavatsky. *The Original Programme of the Theosophical Society*. T.P.H., edition 1931, p. 45.)

I am sure that with all our might we are trying to do that in whatever small a way, thereby finding help and understanding from our CHIEF-BROTHER, the PRESIDENT of the Theosophical Society, and from his co-workers, to whom all Hail and Blessing.

J. A. H. VAN LEEUWEN,
Acting General Secretary.

BURMA

A free and independent Union of Burma was born during the year, but in the wake of freedom came the untold miseries and turmoils from which the new nation has not yet shaken itself free. Our Lodges in the districts remained cut off almost completely and Theosophical activities mainly centred in Rangoon.

Membership.—The year began with 117 members, many of whom had not yet been contacted after the war. There were 9 admissions and two members passed on during the year, bringing the membership at the close of the year to 124, of whom only about 40 were active members. A net gain of 7.

Finance.—The year opened with a balance of Rs. 394-4-0 and closed with Rs. 529-14-0. A statement of receipts and payments is appended to this report.

Estate.—The Society's estate at Thingangyun is let to a number of small tenants, but as no arrangements could be made to collect the rents regularly the arrears of rent at the close of the year were Rs. 576-8-0, which sum will have to be written off as irrecoverable.

Message of Theosophy.—It has not been possible to revive the Section Journal. An attempt was made to issue a quarterly stencilled news-letter, but even this could not be kept up for want of sufficient workers to assist.

Lodges.—As already mentioned, the Olcott Lodge at Rangoon was the only Lodge which was really active during the year.

The Lodge celebrated the usual Theosophical events, "Foundation Day", "Adyar Day" and "White Lotus Day", as well as the birthdays of Dr. Besant and other leaders of the Society.

The Besant Centenary Celebrations were a great success. There were weekly lectures for a month culminating in a large public meeting on 1st

October, followed by a broadcast talk in English.

The United Nations Day was celebrated on the 26th June by public lectures in English and radio talks in both English and Burmese, the latter being given by the Attorney-General of Burma.

An attempt was made to have religious discourses in Burmese by Ven'ble Bhikkhus to attract the Burmese public, but as the response was poor it had to be dropped. Talks are now being given in Burmese on the "Mathematics of Buddhism" by U Ba Sein, K.S.M., T.P.S., every week, and we are glad to say that this is attracting a fairly good Burmese audience.

Members had quite a few social gatherings. Special mention must be made of a pleasant launch picnic on the Rangoon river, which was a great success.

There were two study groups meeting regularly, one on Sunday mornings, on Dr. Besant's *Thought Power, its Control and Culture* and the other on Wednesday evenings on Bishop Leadbeater's *Talks on At the Feet of the Master*.

District Lodges.—The only Lodges of which we have received reports are those at Mandalay, Maymyo and Pyinmana. Both the Mandalay and the Maymyo Lodge buildings were partly damaged during the war. Bro. U Kyaw Hla and Bro. Maung Maung Hmin are doing their best to strengthen these two Lodges. Bro. U Hla Maung at Yamethin and Bro. U San Mya at Taungdwinggy, are also gathering round themselves small centres which have much active service to their credit.

The B. E. T. School.—The School continues to grow, the main handicap being lack of suitable teachers, and, of course, finance. The monthly deficit of the School comes to about

Rs. 1000. The Trust hopes to raise the School to a full Post Primary School by next year.

The Burma Humanitarian League.—This is the Silver Jubilee year of the League and it has been a year of achievement. The state functions relating to the Independence Day were marked by the avoidance of meat, and slaughter houses were closed during the whole period of the celebrations. Legislation has been introduced regulating slaughter of cattle, and the World Day for Animals has been declared by the President of the Union to be a day

to be observed each year by all slaughter houses in the country being closed.

The Mandalay Vegetarian Society and the Buddhist Society.—These have continued to do very useful work through the inspiring efforts of Bro. U Kyaw Hla.

Conclusion.—Burma is going through difficult times and, in order to counteract all evil tendencies, let us redouble our energies in working for peace and understanding by the spreading of the message of Theosophy, which is more than ever needed by the world at present.

U SAN HLA,

General Secretary.

AUSTRIA

We were fortunate this year in continuing our work with the best success. Though we are living in a way inside the "Iron Curtain" which seems to separate two worlds of contradictory ideologies, our Section did not feel this so very much until quite recently.

We began our activities on October 1st, 1947, with the celebration of the centenary of Dr. Besant's birthday and finished it on June 28th, 1948, on the third anniversary of the foundation of the United Nations Organization. On that date we held a combined meeting of the six Viennese Lodges. The General Secretary and six delegates of the Lodges spoke to the members assembled, stressing the progress of human civilization which expresses itself in its co-operation in spite of deep-rooted controversies, and making a comparison between the ideals of the United Nations and of the Theosophical Society. A quartette of our lady singers and performances on the piano-forte embellished the festive hour.

At Christmas and at Easter two great gatherings were held at which our Relief Committee distributed tea,

sandwiches and sweets to the members of the Section—gifts from the Rt. Hon. H. G. A. Mason, Minister for Justice of New Zealand, and also some gifts from the Youth Movement of the Theosophical Society in Auckland.

During the whole year public lectures were delivered regularly each week in Vienna and fortnightly in Graz. During the same period members assembled regularly in our temporary Lodge home, the private office of a devoted member. The Lodges of Graz and Bruck a. d. Mur also met regularly. In January Lotus Lodge was closed and members transferred to other Lodges. The Centre at Linz in upper Austria had worked so well that it was chartered as *Johannes Lodge* on June 24th, 1948, with Mr. Emil Fredl as its first President and 15 members. The Centre in Gratwein was transferred to Graz where its members joined Lodge Blavatsky. Lodge Annie Besant in Leoben remains inactive.

In May 1948, we received back again a great part of our former Library which had been seized in 1938 by the Gestapo. We thank those Austrian

Socialists who had made researches for displaced goods of a cultural nature in the old castles of Czechoslovakia. Thus at the cost of packing and transport we got back for our Section 1500 books, the half of our former Library.

Thanks to the indefatigable work of Dr. Norbert Lauppert in Graz it was possible to continue the delivery of our periodical *Adyar*, though every number of it means a deficit in money. Our periodical has become also the linking organ for the so-called German-speaking region of Austria, Germany and eastern Switzerland. Without this combination it could not continue to exist. Dr. Lauppert published this year a third book *Spiritismus, Magie und Yoga*.

The membership of the Austrian Section increased from 369 to 442 active members. The number of Lodges is 13.

Last, but not least, we have to thank our dear brothers of the United States of America for their excellent relief work of this year. They again sent us food and clothes, which were a great help for all our members. In the name of all and of the Section I herewith render our heartfelt thanks. Our country's needs were still great this year, but greater has been the light of Brotherhood strengthened in our hearts by the sympathy and love of our brothers in America, England, New Zealand, Australia and Switzerland. With all of them fine threads of friendship and brotherhood were established.

FRITZ SCHLEIFER,
General Secretary.

NORWAY

This year, as in previous years, the Norwegian Section received valuable help from Bishop Otto Viking. He visited the local Lodges and presided at the Summer School at Nordseter. He also gave an inspiring lecture in Oslo. A Theosophical weekend was held in Oslo, the subject being "Fix the Consciousness in the Ego."

For a fortnight from June 19th we held our very successful Summer School at Nordseter. The School was attended by 35 members, including two from Denmark and one from Sweden. The School was housed in the Neverfjelli Hotel where all the arrangements were excellent. Bishop Viking's lectures and talks gave much food for thought, inspiration and new impulses and all the members who attended were enthusiastic.

Two members, Mr. Erling Havrevold and Mr. Trygve Bauer Nilsen have, as before, paid the expenses of the magazine *Norsk Teosofisk Tidsskrift*

which has been sold on the newspaper stands.

At the Summer School it was decided that next year the School should be held at Hardanger, Folkehøgskule, Lofthus, Hardanger, with the same Leader, Bishop Viking. Hardanger is one of the most beautiful parts of Norway and this will be convenient for our members in Haugesund, Stavanger and Bergen. We also expect visitors from other countries.

Public lectures have been given by Mrs. Ruth Wessel Nielsen on *Life and Death in the Light of Theosophy* and by Mr. Ernst Nielsen on *Theosophy in Modern Literature*.

Some of our members have done good work in sending parcels of food and clothing to members in Germany. These have been received with warm thanks by the recipients.

Members from the Norwegian Section visited the Summer Schools in Denmark, Sweden and Finland. No

doubt these visits will give inspiration and material for study in the year to come.

This year we have 127 members, a gain of 5. Three members have died.

One of these, Paul Wideroe of Oslo, was the translator of the President's public lectures in Oslo in 1947 and was one of our most active and faithful workers.

ERNST NIELSEN,
General Secretary.

EGYPT

Presidential Agency. No Report.

DENMARK

In the autumn of 1947 the important event was the celebration of the Besant Centenary. This gave an opportunity for us to study the life and work of Dr. Besant and was the source of great inspiration to all the Lodges in Denmark. We realized that to study Dr. Besant's achievements was to reach beautiful and logical realms of consciousness.

During the year Mr. Otto Viking visited all the Lodges and gave lectures which were much appreciated, both by members and the public.

I feel that harmonious co-operation between Lodges and Members in Denmark is developing. The Aarhus Lodge and Lodges at Copenhagen hold regular monthly public meetings.

The work carried out by the European Federation is of great importance to Denmark. That it is possible for some Theosophists from the different European countries to meet together for some days is very significant. The Workers' Week in Sweden was very

successful. Six members from Denmark were able to attend.

The Annual Convention of the Danish Section took place at Copenhagen on 6th May. The Membership of the Section is now 359, a gain of 25. There are 11 Lodges. The Convention was very harmonious. I was re-elected General Secretary. In the evening of the Convention Mr. Otto Viking spoke about Adyar.

The main events of the summer of 1948 were the Summer Schools at Gammel Praaestegaard and Besantgaarden. These gatherings made it possible for Theosophists in the northern countries to meet together and also to contact Theosophists from other countries, especially from England. These Summer Schools also give the opportunity for us to combine summer holidays with spiritual experiences and Theosophical studies.

J. H. MOLLER,
General Secretary.

IRELAND

The past year has been one of enthusiasm and sustained interest since our last Convention in Dublin on June 22nd, 1947, at which Mrs. Doris Groves, the General Secretary of the English Section presided, delivering the Public Lecture on "Theosophy and Modern Problems" with a knowledge and insight which elicited much discussion from her responsive and interested audience. During the first two weeks of July, 1947, I had the inestimable privilege of attending the Round Table Conference of General Secretaries and official Delegates, which was held at Lutzlau-Weggis near Lucerne, Switzerland; after the Conference travelling to Geneva to attend the Theosophical Workers' Week there. These International Conferences are really great occasions when one contacts the tremendous outpourings of spiritual energy and blessing which are generated during the meetings, and which give the opportunity of meeting members from not only Continental countries but from all the countries of the world.

In October, the Annie Besant Centenary, 1847-1947 was celebrated from 3rd October to the 16th, when Mrs. Josephine Ransom and Mr. E. V. Hayes visited Dublin and Belfast, giving delightfully interesting talks and addresses on the Life and Work of our inspired Leader—Dr. Besant.

A truly memorable occasion and outstanding event of the year was the visit of Srimati Rukmini Devi, who won all hearts and charmed her hearers, not only by her profound and illuminating lectures and talks to members and the public, but also by the simplicity and grace of her beautiful personality. Steady work and interest has been well maintained during the year in the Dublin Lodges; the members' meetings especially have been well attended and the public lectures have attracted large audiences and

numerous enquirers. A significant fact to be noted is, that a number of persons have joined the Society without having attended any T. S. meetings beforehand, in the Dublin Lodges, showing that our efforts to bring Theosophy to the outside world are bearing fruit, and that the great Ideals and Principles of Theosophy are permeating the thought atmosphere of the public at large. Seven members have joined the Dublin Lodges this year, enthusiastically co-operating in the activities. Headquarters was open, and the library at the disposal of members, enquirers and friends four afternoons weekly, during the year, and this service will be continued on Tuesdays and Fridays in the holiday months, from 3-4 p.m.

In April of this year I visited the Cork and County Lodge, remaining in Cork almost a week, conferring with the members on many topics of Theosophical concern. There has been no increase in membership noted.

On the whole, the growth of the Theosophical work in Eire is well sustained, as also in Northern Ireland where the Belfast Lodges are forging steadily ahead under the able and conscientious leadership of the President, Mr. Hugh Shearman. Here, too, the members have met regularly for study, and study circles have been open to the public; the Absent Healing Group has continued its good work unflinchingly and the Social and Musical Evenings have been an unqualified success. The Belfast Lodges are leaving their present quarters for a more permanent and commodious residence, situated a short distance from the city, in a residential neighbourhood. The change is to be welcomed, making, we hope, for an increase in membership and a further impetus to the work of the Belfast Lodges in a different area. The membership of the Belfast Lodges now

stands at sixty-four, eight new members having joined this year.

I regret that there is not much activity to be noted in the Coleraine Lodge. This Lodge is very isolated and lecturers are few and far between; some suggestions have been put forward by the Executive Committee with reference to visiting lecturers travelling to Coleraine in the near future.

There has been a total of fifteen new Members gained for the year in the Irish Section.

Membership.—The total membership on September 30th is 111, a gain of 1.

Our work, as members of the Theosophical Society, is so to live that we shall be radiant examples of Theosophical living, ready to help and serve where help and service are needed, dedicated and selfless in our devotion to the Work of the Elder Brethren. Therefore, let our hearts and minds, being consecrated to the service of mankind, dwell each day on thoughts of PEACE and GOODWILL to all. So shall we promote that spirit of brotherly love throughout the world which alone shall ensure a lasting peace.

ALICE LAW,
General Secretary.

MEXICO

The year that has just passed was characterized in the Mexican Section by steady growth. Five new Lodges were born—three of them in two Western States where Theosophy is now presented to the public mind in two cities saturated with Roman-Catholic teachings and methods. Throughout the country the interest in Theosophical literature is being maintained, as far as possible, by the free distribution, every other month, of 5000 copies of the eight-page leaflet *Dharma*. Many signs of appreciation of it have been received from persons who are now awakening to a new understanding of things visible and invisible. All our Lodges are active and carrying on their usual activities, especially the Youth Lodge and a few others which are full of a life that will bear, no doubt, good fruit in the years that lie ahead.

An additional source of optimism is the fact that our Sectional Headquarters property is now free of debt, and we are looking forward to the possibility of sound arrangements for the demolition of this old house and the erection

of an up-to-date several-storied building to be the permanent Home of the T.S. in the very centre of the Capital-Metropolis of this Republic.

Membership.—Statistics for the year ending October 31st 1948 show 69 new members and 6 additions by reinstatement, while 38 were lost: 1 by death, 35 removed from the rolls, and 2 resignations, leaving at the close a membership of 378 active members. The number of our Lodges increased from 20 to 24 and there are 4 Study Centres.

We regret the resignation of our former President of the National Council, Dr. Alfredo Cuarón. He joined the Society in January 1924 and served it faithfully and incessantly as lecturer, many years as President of his Lodge and member of the Sectional Board. By death we lost another most prominent member of long standing, Bro. Antonio Becerra y Castro, author of a small volume of poems, and highly esteemed by us all. On the other hand we regained Bro. Manuel E. Velasco, Engineer and Doctor, who joined the Society in 1908 and dropped out in 1936

shortly after the visit of Mr. Krishna-murti to this country. He is now Instructor of the newly born Lodge *Armonia* at Guadalajara, State of Jalisco.

Lodge Activities.—At Headquarters, meetings are held *every day of the year, Sundays included*, either by our six local Lodges or by 16 Masonic and Co-Masonic Lodges, as well as Evangelical and Astrological Study Groups, Yoga School, etc. Twelve public lectures on the 12 Theosophical tenets formulated at Lutzlau-Weggis, were delivered from April to June 1948. Adyar, White-Lotus and Foundation Days were duly commemorated by almost all our Lodges.

A special celebration of the Foundation Day of the United Nations Organization took place on June 26th at Headquarters. Mr. R. Fussoni, head of the local Information-Centre of the U.N.O. was so kind as to send freely a set of five 39 mm. films and their explanation in the Spanish language to every one of our Lodges (20 sets), thus enabling them to help, by means of lantern-lectures, the propaganda work of the U.N.O. Several of our Lodges in the Interior, most prominently those at Veracruz and Tapachula (Chiapas), exhibited them.

Our Young Theosophists showed continued activity all through the year, sending letters, articles, translations and stamps to young Theosophists from other countries; thus fostering currents of Theosophical long-waves of friendship in this Continent.

Bro. Ciro Ampudia started a group for Theosophical studies for English-speaking people, the meetings being held at the Headquarters and arousing new interest in Theosophy.

For the Adyar-Besant-Commemorative-Fund this Section contributed Mex. \$1,078.00 and new donations will shortly be sent.

Publications.—Our Sectional Bulletin was issued and freely sent every alter-

nate month to all members of the Section and to some 300 friends and foreign Lodges; 21,000 copies of the eight-page leaflet *Dharma*, for the diffusion of elementary Theosophy, were mailed during the year to some 4000 addresses. Under the heading *Sabe Ud. Teosofia?* we printed 5000 copies of the pamphlet by L. W. Rogers, *What is Theosophy?* In process of publication are also 5000 copies of the third Spanish edition of that illuminating treatise: *Teosofia Práctica* by C. Jinārājādāsa, most carefully revised and edited, and enlarged.

Mr. J. Francisco Alcaráz D. edited for free distribution one thousand copies of his small 6-page pamphlet *Está Ud. listo?* (Are you ready to understand and live brotherhood and so to form a Lodge?)

On the 14th September the General Secretary started a six-weeks lecture-tour along the Western States of Jalisco and Colima, where active membership in the T.S. had decreased to only three members. Equipped with his 35 mm. colour plate projector, and six series of lantern-slides and diagrams, he delivered visual lectures on the Origin of the Universe, Evolution, Travels in India, Maya ruins, etc., the press commentaries being highly favourable. As a result, three new Lodges were born at the cities of Guadalajara (Jalisco), Zapotlan and Colima. Our new workers will receive constant help from Headquarters.

The Mystic Star Ritual was, as usual, regularly performed every month as well as when Equinoxes and Solstices occurred. A juvenile Star Group is in process of organization.

Distinguished Visitors.—At the end of January 1948, Mr. and Mrs. John B. S. Coats, coming from the North-American Section, visited us and delivered public lectures, promising, to our delight, to come afresh in 1949.

Convention.—Our next annual gathering will take place at Orizaba, Ver.

December 27th, 28th and 29th, the local Lodge "Emancipación y Progreso" of that city to be the host.

We hope to be able to increase the vibration in the life rhythm of the Mexican Section during the coming year.

Glad we all feel to cooperate, even in a very small measure, to push forward the Great Theosophical Movement.

ADOLFO DE LA PEÑA GIL,
General Secretary.

CANADA

This has been an uneventful year, at least as far as the Canadian National Society is concerned, consequently I have little to report. The Membership is practically the same viz. 365, with a few who will pay up in their own good time and be active again. Numerically we seem to be somewhat static but nevertheless there is no question that Theosophy is a living thing out here. Our meetings are well attended and when there are notable speakers visiting the Lodges there are near capacity audiences. In view of this one would think that we would have many new members but somehow, interested as they apparently are, they do not seem inclined to make the plunge but hover about on the outside. What is that something that keeps so many from joining? I wish I knew. Of course we do not proselytise for members, and this lack of going after them may lead many to think that we are just not interested whether they join or not.

The Election last June returned me to office by acclamation and the members of the General Executive are practically the same with the exception that Miss M. Hindsley and Mr. N.W.J. Haydon were returned in place of Mr. Thomas and Mr. Hatt. Mr. Dudley W. Barr was again confirmed in his post as Editor of *The Canadian Theosophist*. The magazine, despite its reduced size, continues to be highly appreciated, judging from the numerous letters received and by the fact that 43 new subscribers joined during the past year.

I again attended the American Convention and was delighted with the warm welcome I received. Most of our Lodges though small are keenly interested in their work and Toronto Lodge, the largest of its kind I believe on this continent, is as usual very active. The Secret Doctrine Class begun in 1892 has continued without a break ever since and many of the Lodge members have been through it, thus giving them a sound foundation for their further studies. This Lodge threw open its premises for the Fraternal Convention held early in September and which proved very successful. Mr. J. Emory Clapp of Boston, the prime mover, was indefatigable in his efforts to bring it about, and it is hoped that now it has been resuscitated it will be an incentive for all branches of The Theosophical Society to work together in closer co-operation for our fundamental ideas.

I regret to report the death of eight of our members during the year, the best known of whom were Miss Agnes Wood and Mr. Hugh Gillespie. Miss Wood for many years was an earnest and sincere worker for the Cause and at one time was a member of the General Executive as well as Librarian of the Toronto Lodge. Mr. Gillespie, who for many years was a resident of Sydney, New South Wales, was a keen devotee of the Secret Doctrine and always maintained that its investigation and study was the true basis of every Lodge. I understand that he, as a member of the Institute of

Sanitary Engineers, London, was instrumental in directing the sanitation works at Adyar many years ago.

We held meetings in connection with the United Nations Organization anniversary, and on considering the effects feel that there is something missing. It seems to me that in spite of all the rhetoric there should be something in the background besides our First Object which, admirable though it be, is to most people a shibboleth of impracticable ideas. We hear of conferences on money problems, agricultural problems, educational and so on in connection with it all, again very desirable no doubt; but, will these things in themselves bring about what is most essential, peace and goodwill among the nations? All this may not come within the scope of an annual report, but I feel the time has come when every effort should be made to stabilize the chaotic condition of humanity. Materialism is rampant and the two great ideologies extant are irreconcilable. Therefore we must do everything we

can to temper it with elements of spirituality. I would suggest the following: Could not the religious groups of the world get together and instigate a United Nations Conference on spiritual problems where prominent leaders of all the great religions, backed by the vast resources of their followers, might thereby focus spiritual endeavour towards the great task of furthering goodwill, compassion and brotherhood among the peoples of the earth? If the churches, temples, mosques and synagogues throughout the world were to unite in this common purpose what a message it would be to mankind! If The Theosophical Society is not strong or influential enough alone to inaugurate this, why not through its aegis urge India to take the initiative, and in its new-born role proclaim to the world its pristine desire to lead in the emancipation of mankind?

E. L. THOMSON,

General Secretary.

ARGENTINA

There are 66 Lodges in this Section and 1315 members, a gain of 158.

These numbers include the Lodges and members in the Sub-Section of Bolivia.

J. M. OLIVARES,

General Secretary.

CHILE

There are now 176 members in this Section in 11 Lodges, a gain of 3 members.

JUAN ARMENGOLLI,

General Secretary.

BRAZIL

The year 1948 may be considered of very special significance for the Theosophical Society in Brazil, due to the promising events which crowned the efforts of the Brazilian Section. Among these events the renewal of three old Lodges, which for many years have been inactive, would be sufficient to justify the above statement. In addition one Youth Group has been formed and thirteen new Lodges founded, with the effect of more than doubling the total number of Lodges in existence in 1946.

The Section Headquarters was transferred in 1946 from Rio de Janeiro to Sao Paulo.

Another event which we consider most relevant is the visit which the General Secretary of the Section paid to the Northern and Southern Lodges of the country, an unprecedented development in the Brazilian Section's history. Actually we are now gathering the crops grown by the unselfish efforts of a number of brothers on behalf of the Theosophical ideal—some still on this physical plane, others having already departed to the higher ones.

The following table records the main events marking the Sao Paulo's phase of the Brazilian Section:

I. Reorganization of the following Lodges:

- (1) *Annie Besant*, Belem, State of Para on July 3rd, 1948.
- (2) *Unity*, Forteleza, State of Ceara, on July 15th, 1948.
- (3) *Humanity*, Sao Carlos, State of Sao Paulo, October 1948.

II. Foundation of the following Lodges:

- (4) *Arjuna*, Sao Luis, State of Maranhao, on July 8th, 1948.
- (5) *Blavatsky*, Florianopolis, State of Santa Catarina, on August 12th, 1948.

(6) *Righteousness and Culture*, Porto Alegre, State of Rio Grande do Sul, on August 17th, 1948.

(7) *Nirvana*, Pelotas, State of Rio Grande do Sul, on August 26th, 1948.

(8) *Annie Besant II*, Botucatu, State of Sao Paulo, on August 23rd, 1948.

(9) *Hope*, Avare, State of Sao Paulo, on August 28th, 1948.

(10) *Sao Manoel*, Sao Manoel, State of Sao Paulo, on September 11th, 1948.

(11) *Karma Yoga*, Bauru, State of Sao Paulo, on September 18th, 1948.

(12) *Altruism*, Sao Roque, on September 18th, 1948.

(13) *Rukmini*, Rio Branco, State of Minas Gerais, on May 14th, 1948.

(14) *Abnegation*, Jau, State of Sao Paulo, on October 2nd, 1948.

(15) *Arjuna II*, Sorocaba, State of Sao Paulo, October 1948.

(16) *Bandeirante*, Piracicaba, State of Sao Paulo, October 1948.

III. We must not omit to make a special mention of the foundation of the Theosophical Bandeirante Youth, which took place on March 12th, 1948, at Sao Paulo, with the same aims as the World Federation of Young Theosophists, which has its Headquarters at Adyar and is under the direction of Srimati Rukmini Devi. It is necessary to stress the highest importance that we attach to this work, since we expect that from among these young people will emerge our successors of tomorrow.

IV. *O Teosofista*.—In spite of all financial difficulties this organ of the

Section continues to be published monthly and with an increased number of pages.

V. New Regulations for the Brazilian Section.—

As the urgent need for modifying the present regulations has been felt by experience, a draft of new regulations has been sent to all Lodges in the country, in order that they may state their points of view as a contribution to the final document.

VI. Universal Brotherhood Day. This date was celebrated on January 1st, with the co-operation of other

organizations as well as our own, thus showing the development of feelings of tolerance and unity.

We can rightly say that the interest in Theosophy is increasing more and more in Brazil, a result to which the Theosophical Publishing House, Adyar contributes.

VII. Statistics.—Lodges active in 1948=31.

Active members 750, a net gain of 137.

ARMANDO SALES,
General Secretary.

BULGARIA

No Report

ICELAND

The year's work in Iceland has been in many ways successful. We have four Lodges and have gained 13 members, making a total of 209.

The Order of Service has done excellent work. It has collected money, some of which has been used to repair the meeting house of the Society, and some to buy food to send to brethren in Germany. Members have enriched the meetings by music, worked among children in the town and given to the Society two beautiful tablecloths, decorated with the emblem of the Society. The President of the Order is Mrs. Svava Fells.

Gangleri, the periodical of the Theosophical Society in Iceland, has been issued twice.

We had three propaganda evenings last winter. I conducted a study group where we studied the teachings about the planetary chains and the races of man. These meetings were well attended and the group participated with interest. Last summer I made a lecture tour to the north of the country,

At the Annual Meeting of the Section, held in October, I had the honour to be re-elected for the 13th time as General Secretary.

The Theosophical work in Iceland is going on in a steady way, not with much outer display, but in a spirit of calm determination and dedication to Truth and Beauty. We are few as yet, but we are not so much at war with indifference or antipathy against Theosophy as with the Icelandic national character, which is very individualistic. Icelanders can be very interested in ideas, even enthusiastic about them, but to join a society to propagate them—that is another matter!

Let me express the hope that we, who call ourselves Theosophists, may succeed in promoting Truth and Brotherhood and Beauty in the world through the Theosophical Society as a pliable instrument.

GRETAR FELLS,
General Secretary.

SPAIN

No Report

PORTUGAL

During the year the 10 Lodges continued their work. The state of these Lodges was similar to that in the preceding year. All Lodges held regular meetings for study.

The total membership of the Section is 195, a gain of 2.

The usual Theosophical festivals were celebrated in the Lodges. Dr. Besant's Centenary was commemorated with great solemnity, by means of various speeches and the unveiling of a portrait of Dr. Besant, drawn by the Portuguese artist Joe.

During the year many public lectures were delivered at our Headquarters by important Portuguese members and distinguished visitors, notably Mrs. E. C. Goolden and Mr. Eric Taylor.

The Young Theosophists continued their activities. They have aided displaced German Theosophists and taken some of the responsibility of the administration and direction of the Section, through their representative on the Council of the Section, as Lecturers and Presidents of Lodges, and in other activities. Their participation in the Direction Council was a very successful experiment, because we think that the collaboration of young and old Theosophists in the same work, when wisely directed, is extremely useful, not only for the young because of

the richness of experience that the complicated problems of the associated life gives to them, but also for the old workers whose spiritual stiffness is counteracted by the new blood and the new points of view.

In August and September, a group of Portuguese members visited some Theosophical Centres in England and France. Unfortunately the Workers' Week and other activities of the European Federation took place at a time when it was not possible for our members to attend.

The Quarterly Bulletin, *Osiris*, was published regularly. We have balanced our finances.

Madame Lefevre was fortunate enough to obtain, without any expense, some manuscripts and unpublished letters of Madame Blavatsky. These were handed over to the International President, Mr. Jinarājādāsa, to be kept at Adyar. These letters were written by Madame Blavatsky to a Russian Prince and diplomat. The last owner gave them to the Portuguese Section but our Directing Council agreed gladly that they should be sent to Adyar, to be kept with the other mementoes of our great Founder.

May our Section continue to be worthy of the blessing of the Great Masters.

DELIO NOBRE SANTOS,
General Secretary.

WALES

The autumn work of the Section in 1947 was given an inspiring start by the Besant Centenary celebrations. Mr. H. S. L. Polak visited Cardiff and addressed a well-attended public meeting on October 1st.

The Annual Convention of the Section was held in Cardiff in October, Mr. Sri Ram presiding. In January Mr. Ransom visited Cardiff and Pontypool, and in April he was the guest speaker at a week-end gathering at Colwyn Bay. Many members from the more remote areas made a special effort to attend this gathering.

In May we had the great joy of a visit from Srimati Rukmini Devi, who addressed a members' meeting and a crowded public meeting in Cardiff.

The Section has been greatly helped by the visits of these distinguished brothers.

My first duty and privilege as General Secretary was to attend the European Federation Round Table Conference in Switzerland in July 1947. I also attended the Summer School held at High Leigh in England.

Membership.—I have been able to contact the majority of the members personally or by letter. The roll shows a decrease of 3 and now stands at 170.

Lodges.—*Cardiff and Colwyn Bay* Lodges hold regular members' and public meetings and give evidence of healthy vigour. *Wrexham* holds regular meetings but is still a small Lodge. The position in West Wales is still unsatisfactory; we hope to hold meetings there shortly. The effect of war disorganization is still being felt in areas where the membership is small.

Co-operation with other Sections in the British Isles.—We owe grateful thanks to the English Section for their help in the provision of lecturers.

I welcome the co-option of the British Isles General Secretaries on the London Committee of the European Federation and hope that this is the beginning of much closer co-operation between the four Sections.

Headquarters.—Our Recorder, Miss Alice Banks, retired on December 31st 1947 after 23 years' devoted service. A presentation and a small pension have been granted in recognition of her work. She is much missed at Headquarters and the work has been difficult without regular clerical assistance. It is hard for the General Secretary to carry on without this help.

National Library.—We are grateful to Miss Banks for continuing to act as Librarian. She reports that 337 books were borrowed during the year, less than for some years.

Cardiff Lodge has re-opened its Library in the Besant Hall and this accounts to some extent for the decrease in the number of books borrowed from the National Library. This Library now contains 2,500 books.

Federation of Young Theosophists.—Miss Vera Richards has been appointed liaison representative for Wales.

I should like to express my thanks to all those who have helped me in various ways during this somewhat difficult first year of my office as General Secretary.

E. CLAUDIA OWEN,
General Secretary.

POLAND
No Report

URUGUAY

The activities of this Section have been carried on through the Lodges, study classes, public lectures and the Library.

There are five active Lodges and two study groups. The total Membership is 69, a gain of 10.

The Lodges carry on their activities according to the fundamental characteristics of the members who compose them.

Vidya Lodge.—This Lodge has discussed subjects such as psychoanalysis, metaphysics and ethics. They meet on Sundays with a large attendance.

Karma Marga Lodge.—The work of the year was inspired by Letter 31 of the Master K. H. They meet on Saturdays with a good attendance.

Harmonia Lodge.—The members of this Lodge are studying Theosophical teachings in a systematic fashion. In addition they have a monthly meeting for members only, at which they consider deeper and more mystical subjects. They meet on Wednesdays with a regular attendance.

Pallas Atenea Lodge.—This Lodge works on the second Object of the Society, especially concerning itself with philosophy and art. Their custom is to ask visitors to assist at the exposition of the subjects. They have a regular attendance at their Monday meetings.

Ariel Lodge.—This Lodge meets regularly on Fridays. Sometimes they have formal propaganda lectures and sometimes improvised debates on questions of general interest. They have a good attendance.

Morya Group.—This Group has held 34 public meetings in the year and an art festival. Distinguished visitors and members have taken part in the work. One day a month is set aside for answering questions. They have a large attendance on Mondays.

Devenir Group.—The members of this Group edit the review of that

name, whose presentation and material makes it one of the best Theosophical publications in the world.

Library Committee.—This Committee, which is composed of members from all Lodges, has started a period of great activity. There is a great increase in the growth of the Library. They have a quarter of an hour on the radio, thanks to the help of Brother Sprimberg, who gives the time free. They hold a public lecture every fortnight on the subject of "The Role of Books in Culture". They meet on Thursdays with good success.

Nine lectures were held at the *Ateneo* of Montevideo at which there was a regular attendance of the public. Leaflets giving an account of the last three lectures were printed and circulated. A leaflet entitled *The Teachings of Theosophy* was also printed.

From the above it may be seen that the Section in its work covers all the aspects of the teachings that we have the duty of studying. As a Society we organise the diffusion of the teachings in our country.

Our work has been more of deepening than expansion. We try to keep our Society on a plane which will gain it public respect. We think it very important that the studious public should feel, if they do not understand, that Theosophy possesses a content of teaching concerning life and wisdom so profound that to disassociate oneself from it is to deny oneself as an intelligent investigator. This attitude of ours has the disadvantage that the number of members continues low; but it appears to us that we should profane the teaching and the memory of those who left it to us if, in order to grow in membership, we should proselytize or admit discussion of mere phenomena.

LUIS SARTHOU,
General Secretary.

PUERTO RICO

The activities of the Section are very similar to those of the preceding year. In fact the only two Lodges that have had any new members are those of Santurce, 4 during 1947 and 5 during 1948. The membership does not increase much because doubtful members, who do not show any more interest, are dropped. The membership for 1948 is 86, a gain of 3.

We keep up our weekly meetings and our radio programme every fortnight. Our Section Magazine—mimeographed—has been published regularly every other month. Thus we keep up the work until better workers or more propitious conditions permit more spectacular activities.

A. J. PLARD,
General Secretary.

RUMANIA

No Report

YUGOSLAVIA

No Report

CEYLON

In September of 1947 Miss E. W. Preston visited the Island. This visit was a new and very fortunate impulse given to our small group in its efforts. The three Public Lectures brought us new members and re-invigorated the existing group. She brought and presented to us our new Lodge Charter, presenting it in a serene and memorable way. This meeting took place in the beautiful garden of Mr. and Mrs. Pedris, where in the previous year we had been stimulated by our beloved brother Mr. Sri Ram in the founding of Lanka Lodge. The three public meetings given by Miss Preston in the Y.M.B.A., Y.M.C.A., and at the Musaeus College were very successful indeed.

In the early part of October Lanka Lodge held its Annual General Meeting at which Mr. N. K. Choksy, K. C.

was re-elected President, Mr. Kadirgamar was re-elected Treasurer and Mr. Tudor Jayawardena Secretary.

The Lanka Lodge is still the only active Lodge in Ceylon but its membership is steadily growing. The membership on September 30th 1948 was 43, a gain of 17 during the year.

Lanka Lodge has held fortnightly meetings, first at the Headquarters in Wellawatte. Later, monthly meetings only were held there, and monthly meetings at Mr. Kadirgamar's residence, as this was found to be more convenient. Mr. Kadirgamar has obtained a house in the residential quarter of Colombo and has kindly offered it to the Lodge for its meetings.

At the meetings Mr. Choksy summarised chapters of *First Principles of Theosophy* in a very helpful and understanding way, connecting up

his talks with recent discoveries and hypotheses of science, clearly illustrating how Theosophy had foreshadowed some discoveries and events.

The meeting on the 1st of October was dedicated to our great President Dr. Annie Besant. Mrs. Hapugalle and Mrs. Kemperling spoke on their associations with her, and Mr. Choksy closed the meeting with an appreciation of her work for the world.

In November some of our members passed through the Island on their way to Adyar and we were very happy to see them. The visitors included Mrs. Berry who gave a talk which thrilled every one.

At the beginning of January our Secretary had to go to Kandy and Mr. G. O. De Silva was appointed acting Secretary. In a short time he had to resign the office and Mrs. Kemperling was appointed by Mr. Choksy.

In April we had a question and answer meeting, when Mr. Henri van Zeyst came to us for the first time. Later in April, Mr. C. D. Shores, the

Treasurer of the International Society paid us a welcome visit. We had a special meeting in Mr. Kadirgamar's garden at which we had a very good attendance of members.

In May Mr. van Zeyst spoke to 27 members on "The Ten Fetters of Buddhism." Later in May Mr. Rustonjee spoke on "Evolution" and in June and July on "Re-incarnation." Lively discussion took place which was much enjoyed by those present. A welcome visitor in July was Mr. J. J. van Ginkel who gave a talk to members and a public lecture, which was very well attended, at the Y.M.B.A.

May we add here how much we appreciate visits by members of other Sections who break their journey to Adyar by visiting our small Island, and we hope that many will follow in their footsteps. By this we realize the first object of our Society—BROTHERHOOD.

N. K. CHOKSY,

Presidential Agent.

GREECE

Our work has been, this year, on the whole a success. The number of the Lodges has remained the same. One of the old Lodges, *The Search* of Patras, was dissolved, because the number of its members had been reduced to less than seven. Its place has been taken by the new Lodge *Annie Besant*, under the Presidentship of Mr. Costa Antoniadis, a distinguished lawyer of Athens. The total number of Lodges is 7.

Last year the Section was composed of 273 members. The losses in the year amounted to 54. Of these 46 were members of the Lodge *Blavatsky-Olcott*, which has ceased to belong to this Section and is attached directly

to Adyar. The remaining 8 were removed from the rolls by death and other causes. As we have had 36 new admissions the total strength on the rolls stand at 255.

All the Lodges carried on their work with great activity, each Lodge meeting once a week or twice a month. Lodge *Orpheus* has studied the ancient Greek Theosophy, Lodge *Light* the teachings of Krishnamurti, Lodge *Socrates*, under the leadership of their invaluable President, Mrs. Mary Kandili, contemporary psychology, Lodge *Nirvana* besides other subjects of Theosophical doctrine, the personality of Jesus Christ, and the remaining Lodges Theosophy in general. A discussion

has followed each lecture, always in a spirit of absolute freedom and mutual respect.

A novelty this year has been the creation of "Theosophical Evenings". They consist in joint meetings of all the members of the Section and are held once a month. Every Lodge, in turn, organises its evening. The subjects treated at these evenings are of a more general character than those usual at the Lodges. They have proved a great success and have promoted closer relations between the members of the Section.

Adyar, Foundation and White Lotus days were commemorated in our Hall, beautifully decorated with a profusion of flowers brought by the brothers of the Section.

The Annie Besant Centenary was celebrated in the large Hall of the Archaeological Society in a way worthy of the occasion. Besides the members of the Section we had the pleasure to receive many distinguished guests who came to take a part in the homage rendered by the Theosophical Society to its great Leader.

Our annual Convention was held on January 20th, 1948.

On account of the situation in the country we organised this year only

one public Lecture with subject "Humanism and its relation with Theosophy."

Our Library has been open throughout the year and the circulation of its books has been very satisfactory.

The Greek Theosophical literature has been enriched this year by two books. The Section has published a booklet dedicated to Annie Besant on the occasion of her Centenary, illustrated by two beautiful photographs which show her in two different stages of her glorious career. Our Joint General Secretary, Mr. Kosti Melissaropoulos has published a valuable work, under the title *Introduction to Theosophy*, which has been favourably received by the brothers and found many a reader among the general public.

The highly increased prices of the printing material and wages of the printers have rendered impossible last year the publication of our Bulletin, which was a valuable instrument for the propagation of Theosophy, especially in the provinces. We have good reason to hope that this coming year our finances will allow us to begin its regular publication once more.

CIMON PRINARIS,
General Secretary.

CENTRAL AMERICA

No Report

PARAGUAY

Presidential Agency

No Report

PERU

No Report

PHILIPPINES

The year 1948 opened auspiciously for the Philippine Section with the yearly general Convention held in February, dedicated to the United Nations Organization. The cabled greeting from Mr. Jinarājadāsa was gratefully received and read to the Convention. Mr. Cook and Rukmini Devi also sent greetings. It was a fairly large gathering of enthusiastic members, with a good sprinkling of visitors, and an atmosphere of happy comradeship and fraternity prevailed. Dean Tongco of the Far Eastern University, a Member of the Theosophical Society, read an instructive paper on the United Nations. The old Board of Trustees, with only one or two changes, was re-elected at this Convention.

A detailed mimeographed report by the Section President, giving the history of the Theosophical Movement in the Philippines from its inception to the present, and including paragraph-stories of the several Lodges, was distributed during the Convention. A detailed financial report was also submitted to the members by the National Treasurer, Mr. Olimpio Cabelon, showing, among other things, that the Section had reduced substantially its indebtedness to the Bank on account of the construction of our National Headquarters.

The Section observed the usual yearly celebrations: Easter Festival, White Lotus Day, the Besant Anniversary, and the monthly inter-Lodge

gatherings, in all of which the Young Theosophists participated actively. The Lodges maintained their usual weekly activities, and several increased their membership. Another old Lodge which had lapsed before the War was revived, increasing the number of active Lodges from 10 to 11. General membership has increased from 186 to 224.

Our members connected with the faculty of local Colleges are finding a fertile field among their student body for the dissemination of Theosophy. Members holding government positions are doing likewise among their co-employees, while one, at least, propagates the teachings during inspection trips in the provinces.

The Philippine Theosophical Institute continues to be the centre of the Section's principal activities. The elementary grade school conducted under the auspices of the Institute, is trying hard to hold its own, surrounded as it is with free public elementary schools supported by the Government. The public lectures held every Sunday afternoon by the Institute continue to attract fairly good audiences, considering the highly technical nature of the subjects treated under Advanced Theosophy. It is being planned to resume giving lectures on more popular Theosophical subjects to attract a wider public.

DOMINGO C. ARGENTE,
General Secretary.

COLOMBIA

During the year 58 new members have entered the Section, distributed among the various Lodges in the country. There were founded two new Lodges, one in Puerto Wilches (Santander del Sur) and the other in

Armenia (Caldas). This brings the number of Lodges to 18. The total active membership is 275.

One of our most active workers, Dr. Miguel Angel Medina, printed 10,000 copies of the leaflet *Theosophy*

and the Work of the Theosophical Society. Of these 3,639 have been distributed throughout the Republic thus making known the message of Theosophy to a large number of Colombians. Sister Lucia Ballesteros has assisted in dealing with the 750 letters to different correspondents in connection with this effort.

The anniversary of the Founding of the Society was celebrated on November 17th throughout Colombia, and with special solemnity in Bogota where there was a varied programme of music and addresses.

The Society in Colombia gives its help to subsidiary activities, among these being Co-Freemasonry, the Liberal Catholic Church and the Order of the Round Table. Brother Walter Ballesteros has built a Church at his own expense.

On December 4th, 1948 Lodge *Arco Iris* of Bogota celebrated its 25th anniversary by a musical programme of piano and violin. The meeting

began with a short and touching address by Sister Adela de Calvo offering homage to the founder of the Lodge, Senor Ramón Martínez R. who received the decoration of an artistic medal, which was placed on his breast by our dear Brother Dr. Guillermo Vengoechea, our noble and generous collaborator in all the Theosophical activities, who has consecrated to it his work and resources with unequalled generosity.

We are still working under the restrictions imposed by the dominance of the Roman Catholic Church in our country. During the year political events caused disorder and material damage from which the country has not yet recovered, but which may have left in the minds of politicians the hard lesson that they should try to carry out their aims through justice and mutual tolerance.

RAMÓN MARTÍNEZ R.,

General Secretary.

BRITISH EAST AFRICA

The Section was formally established during the year and a Charter to that effect granted by the International President. The responsibility of giving wide publicity to the Society and of propagating the principles of Theosophy now rests on the members throughout East Africa, and I am glad to say that all the various Lodges have played their part well in their respective spheres of influence.

Adyar.—On behalf of the members of this Section I take this opportunity to send our loving greetings to the President and the members of the General Council for their unceasing labours and their splendid services in the cause of Theosophy and for helping humanity throughout the world, and especially in this part of the Dark

Continent, where the benefit of the Light is little known.

Lodges and Membership.—The number of Lodges remains seven and all but one are very active and show keen interest in having their first Convention in the near future. Membership is steadily increasing and shows an upward trend, especially in Bharat Lodge of Chake Chake, the youngest Lodge in this Section.

Activities.—Lodge meetings were held regularly every week and were well attended by members and non-members. Special Anniversary days were celebrated by fitting addresses. In addition to these, in Zanzibar, for the welfare of the world, a *Vishva Shanti Sapta* was arranged for a week, when the Lodge Hall was packed to

capacity with members and others interested in our work. Such activities help to bring Theosophy to the masses.

The Journal.—For the diffusion of Theosophical teachings, since 1942, the Krishna Lodge Zanzibar has published regularly a monthly journal *Saurabh*, in Gujarati. This journal is distributed free to all the members of this Section and to some Lodges in India, and to others interested in Theosophy. Nearly 400 copies are thus distributed every month. It is the only Journal in East Africa for the spreading of Theosophical knowledge and we are grateful to the members of Krishna Lodge for this gesture carried on for all these years. Beside this, a booklet *Saurabhi Lekh-mala*, written by the President of Krishna Lodge, Brother A. F. Kanga, was published and distributed free to all interested in Theosophy. This free distribution was made possible by the generosity of one of the oldest members, Brother D. M. Shah.

Individual Activities.—As in the past our members this year took an active part in civic and public activities as far as possible, and some of them were elected to executive posts by public bodies, such as the Indian National Association and the Social Service

League. Many of our members try their utmost to serve the public by sacrificing their time, energy and money and try to live up to the ideals of the Theosophical teachings. In response to many appeals from India and East Africa, our members contributed generously. From Zanzibar alone, as many as 23 big boxes of clothing, blankets etc., were sent for the use of Indian refugees. A large sum of money was given in response to the United Nations Appeal for Aid to Children.

Library.—Each Lodge tried its best to keep its library up to date with Theosophical books, both in Gujarati and English, so that the younger members might satisfy their thirst from its fountain.

Finance.—All Lodges are in a sound financial position. The Section is still in its infancy and has still its work to do.

Conclusion.—It now remains for all of us to face the future with confidence and devotion, since we are servants for the carrying out of the Great Plan and believe that all things must ultimately work together for good.

J. D. SHAH,
General Secretary.

PRESIDENTIAL AGENCIES AND NON-SECTIONALIZED LODGES

CANADIAN FEDERATION

The year 1947-48 has very definitely been a year of increased activity for the Canadian Federation. For the first time since the early days of the war International Theosophical Lecturers have visited the Canadian Federation Lodges, giving a much needed stimulus. Interesting visitors to Vancouver were Rukmini Devi, Mr. N. Sri Ram, Mrs. Betsan Coats and Mr. John Coats. Mr. Coats made a tour of the Federation Lodges last May; Professor and Mrs. Wood were also visitors to Vancouver and Calgary Lodges.

A new Lodge has been welcomed this year to the group of Federation

Lodges. The Brotherhood Group of Victoria, B.C. has been granted a Charter and is now known as the Besant Lodge. Krishna and Trinity Lodges, of Calgary, have merged and have applied for a new Charter under the name of Lotus Lodge.

Hermes Lodge, Vancouver, acquired a new home last March. An old house was purchased and made over into Lodge Rooms. All Lodges report an interesting and active year; this, with an increase in our membership, is most encouraging for the future of the Theosophical work here. The Membership now stands at 157, a gain of 13.

ELSIE S. GRIFFITHS,

Secretary-Treasurer.

MALAYA

Singapore Lodge.—Membership is now 61, lapsed memberships, resignations and transfers having brought down the total by 11, since last year.

Thursday Public Meetings.—Attendance is (average) 16.

Seven prominent members of the public were invited to speak on their subjects, such as "Social Welfare", "Bhagavad Gita", and "The United Nations".

Once a month a popular Discussion Meeting is held, where, in an informal atmosphere, the chairman invites persons in the meeting to contribute to a subject previously outlined by one or two members.

A very small Committee has worked in great harmony.

The Singapore newspapers gave publicity to the Society's work with write-ups. This does not appear to bring in enquirers.

Trends of the Year. An interest in social problems is developing. Members are engaged individually in social work.

Enquirers of an earnest character are coming regularly, including three members of the Islamic Religion.

Penang. The Lodge in Penang has been active during the year. The Membership there has reached 15.

H. B. MOORHEAD,

Secretary-Treasurer.

WORLD FEDERATION OF YOUNG THEOSOPHISTS

During the year the President of the World Federation of Young Theosophists, Srimati Rukmini Devi, travelled in Europe and America. Wherever she went she addressed groups of Young Theosophists and the response was enthusiastic. She returned to Adyar on 9th December after an absence of more than seven months.

The following is a brief resumé of the work and activities of Young Theosophists in various parts of the world.

European Federation of Young Theosophists.—The General Secretary, Johannes van der Ley, reports that the year has been one of increased activity. Many groups have increased in size, and in several countries groups of Young Theosophists have been reformed. The total number of Young Theosophists in Europe, either officially affiliated or regularly attending meetings, can be estimated at 300. If less interested young people are included the grand total may be approximately 400.

The most important events of the year have been the visit of Rukmini Devi and the international camp at Huizen. The latter was held in the last week in July on the estate of St. Michaels Centre in Huizen; representatives from 7 European countries met, a grand total of 51 participants. A similar meeting is planned for next year in Paris.

Regarding the various countries :

Belgium.—The "Group Krishna" which is an officially recognized Lodge, counts 15 members. They meet every two weeks, discussing a variety of subjects, including "Communities" and "Freemasonry".

Denmark.—Last season the group met once a month. This season the meetings will be fortnightly and it is hoped 5-10 will attend.

England.—It is hardly necessary to mention the programme of Youth

Lodge, with its regular course of weekly lectures. The Youth Lodge has 25 members, and there are 10 unattached Young Theosophists.

Finland.—The group in Finland is not regularly organized but is informal. Half of the group are members of the various Lodges. Meetings are being held in the premises of the Theosophical Society. The average attendance at the twelve meetings last year was 10. Subjects studied have varied from Theosophy and Buddhism to psychology.

France.—The work is proceeding regularly and the number is on the increase. There are groups in Paris, Cherbourg, Nice and Orleans, and also members in other places. The Paris Group, which is the largest, meets regularly every week with study courses and lectures. The study courses concern many Theosophical subjects.

Germany.—The young people are encountering great difficulty; the population is still demoralised and there are great difficulties in getting together a group of young people. There are groups working at Hamburg, Berlin and the Rhineland. It was a great pity that the German Young Theosophists did not get their visas in time to be able to attend the camp at Huizen. The total number of young people is estimated at 20.

Holland.—The Dutch group is the largest on the Continent. There are 120 members and 150 interested; this is an increase over last year's 60 members. There are groups meeting regularly in Utrecht, Huizen, Amsterdam, The Hague and Delft. The group in Utrecht meets every week. The Dutch members are making contact with other youth formations, especially the young vegetarians and also other idealistic groups.

Hungary.—The Hungarian group is concentrated in Budapest and counts 25 members. The study subject was "First Principles of Theosophy" by C. Jinarājadāsa and a book by Dr. Besant. There also was a symposium in which the young people discussed the problems of youth and the elders attended. The Hungarian Young Theosophists have tried to publish their own monthly but could not get permission from the authorities.

Ireland.—Owing to difficulties with the Roman Catholic Church, the number of Young Theosophists is very small. There are only 2 or 3, thus there is no occasion for forming a separate group, but they have a liaison officer.

Luxemburg.—The same difficulties are encountered as in Ireland. There are only 2 Young Theosophists; these however are in contact with the Young Theosophists of France, Belgium and Holland, and so are not entirely isolated.

Norway.—The group has just been reformed and details are not yet available. There is good hope that the group will expand and do much work.

Portugal.—In Portugal the possibilities for work and propaganda are limited owing to the political situation. There is a Lodge in Lisbon of which the young people also are members. There are 5 Young Theosophists in all. No distinction is made between young and old and all are working harmoniously together.

Scotland.—In Scotland there are no Young Theosophists but there is a correspondent who keeps up contact with the other countries.

Sweden.—In Sweden also there is no special group of Young Theosophists. All the young people are associated with the Lodges and have very little time left to work among themselves.

Switzerland.—The Young Theosophists are concentrated in Basel and Geneva. In Basel a group of young people, mostly students and artists, is working under the leadership of

Hanspeter Wyss. Meetings are held every 2 weeks and a variety of subjects is studied. There is also close co-operation with students of the Universities, with whom discussions are held. The group in Geneva is a very devoted study group led by Dr. (Granny) Anna Kamensky. The total number of Young Theosophists in Switzerland can be estimated at 35, of whom 15 are active.

Wales.—There are only 3 Young Theosophists, all co-operating with the Lodge work.

Details received of activities in other countries outside the European Federation are as follows:

United States of America.—At the annual Convention the Young Theosophists Organization, which previously had been disbanded, was reformed once more as the Young Theosophists of America, to be maintained in simplest form with a Youth Secretary as its one officer.

Chile.—In Valparaiso the Juvenile Lodge "Liberacion" wrote to Rukmini Devi in July asking to join the World Federation. They gave news of meetings, public functions, correspondence with all the countries of South America and with other continents, and the publication of their bulletin *Alpha*.

Australia.—The annual report shows five groups and a total membership of approximately 60. They assist in the work of the Theosophical Lodges to which they are attached and have continued sending food parcels to members overseas.

New Zealand.—The Auckland Youth Group has 40 members and the Christchurch Group 20 members. They have been meeting and studying regularly and also have been sending food and clothing parcels to Europe. Their official magazine is *The Torch*.

Mexico.—The Youth Secretary writes that the members have taken part in a series of public conferences and have had correspondence with other young people in South America.

India.—The All-India Federation of Young Theosophists has 27 Lodges and Centres and a membership of 684. During the year it celebrated its Silver Jubilee when many special functions were arranged, including camps and conferences extending over several

days, in some cases lasting up to a week.

Brazil.—The foundation of the Union of the Theosophical Bandirante Youth took place on March 12, at Sao Paulo.

SEETHA NEELAKANTAN,

General Secretary.

HEADQUARTERS

ADYAR, MADRAS 20

1948

Executive Committee :

- (1) THE PRESIDENT, MR. C. JINARAJADĀSA
- (2) THE VICE-PRESIDENT, MR. SIDNEY A. COOK
- (3) THE TREASURER, MR. C. D. T. SHORES
- (4) THE RECORDING SECRETARY, MISS HELEN ZAHARA
- (5) SRIMATI RUKMINI DEVI
- (6) MRS. BHAGIRATHI SRI RAM
- (7) DR. G. SRINIVASA MURTI
- (8) MR. K. SRINIVASA IYENGAR
- (9) MR. N. SRI RAM

OFFICERS

Adyar Library: DIRECTOR: DR. G. SRINIVASA MURTI; CURATOR OF ORIENTAL SECTION: DR. C. KUNHAN RAJA; LIBRARIAN: MRS. A. H. PETERSON.

Archives and Museum: CUSTODIAN: MR. C. JINARAJADĀSA.

Bhojanasala: SUPERINTENDENT: MR. N. R. SUBRAMANIA IYER.

Dispensary: DR. E. SUNDARESAN.

Engineering Department: SUPERINTENDENT: MR. A. R. HEMSTED.

Garden Department: MR. G. S. KURPAD.

Laundry: MR. M. V. GOPALAKRISHNA IYER.

Legal Adviser: RAO BAHADUR K. SUNDARAM CHETTIAR.

Leadbeater Chambers: SUPERINTENDENT: MRS. F. J. W. HALSEY.

Medical Consultant: DR. G. SRINIVASA MURTI.

Post Office: MR. V. SRINIVASAN, BRANCH POSTMASTER.

Sanitation and Hygiene Officer: MADAME P. CAZIN.

The Theosophical Publishing House: MANAGER: MR. K. S. KRISHNAMURTI.

The Vasanta Press: SUPERINTENDENT: MR. C. SUBBARAYUDU.

Watch and Ward Department: MR. K. NEELAKANTAN.

THE ADYAR LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1947-1948

I

During the year under report I have continued as Director with Dr. C. Kunhan Raja M.A., D.Phil. (Oxon.), as Curator. Mr. A. J. Hamerster the Joint Director has been away in Europe since April 1947. Mrs. A. H. Peterson continued as Librarian.

Special Editors—Dr. Adikaram's *Descriptive Catalogue of the Pali Manuscripts* in the Library, the printing of which was started last year, was completed and issued in book form in December 1947. The *S'ālistambasūtra* edited by Paṇḍit N. Aiyaswami Sastri embodying the results of his researches in Tibetan and Chinese studies, continued to be published through the *Bulletin*. Arrangements have now been made for the completion of the last volume of the *Saṅgītaratnākara* and its printing taken up. Other works mentioned in the report of 1945-46 as held up on account of the extreme pressure of work are still pending; and they will be taken up when the pressure is relieved.

II

Eastern Section:—Pandit V. Krishnamacharya was mainly engaged in bringing out the *Samkalpasūryodaya* with two commentaries and the *Haricarita* by Paramesvara with Paṇḍit Krishnamacharya's own commentary. During the year under report both the works have been completed and issued. A tabular statement of his work for the triennium ending with 30-9-48 is given under *Annexure 1*.

Mr. H. G. Narahari continued the work for the *Descriptive Catalogue* of

Sanskrit Manuscripts for the Kāvya section. 153 Manuscripts were described during the period, the description of 510 Manuscripts revised, and the description of 506 Manuscripts printed. The section on Mahākāvyas is now over. A statement of his work for the triennium ending with 30-9-1948 is printed under *Annexure 2*.

Paṇḍit Narayanasami Sastri continued to be in charge of the section for transcription, comparison and restoration of Manuscripts for the Library. His familiarity with the various scripts of Manuscripts in the Library and of scripts not current in South India continued to be utilised for the restoration of such Manuscripts as urgently required copying. A tabular statement of his work for the triennium ending with 30-9-48 is given under *Annexure 3*.

Paṇḍit K. Ramachandra Sarma was mainly engaged in assisting Paṇḍit V. Krishnamacharya and Mr. Narahari for the Kāvya section of the *Descriptive Catalogue*. He was also assigned the work of preparing the press copy of the third volume of the *Saṅgītaratnākara* and he has made considerable progress in the work. *Annexure 4* contains a comparative statement of his work for the same triennium.

Paṇḍit N. Ramachandra Bhatt has continued to copy Manuscripts for the Library and to complete orders for transcripts from outside and also to assist Paṇḍit V. Narayanaswami Sastri in the comparison of the Manuscripts transcribed. He has further assisted Mr. Krishna Aiyangar in the examination of Manuscripts for the *Descriptive Catalogue* for the Dharmasāstra section. A tabular statement of his

work for the corresponding period ending with 30-9-48 is shown under *Annexure 5*.

Sri K. T. Venkatarama Sarma who was one of the three Reference Attendants in the Library having qualified himself for the post of a Paṇḍit, was raised to the post of Junior Paṇḍit from 1-2-48. He is working directly under the Librarian and attending to the registration of Books and Manuscripts and such other work assigned to him from time to time by the Librarian. *Annexure 7* contains a statement of his work from 1-2-48 to 30-9-48.

III

Publications :

A. NEW WORKS COMPLETED AND ISSUED DURING THE YEAR ENDING WITH 30TH SEPTEMBER 1948

(a) Adyar Library Series Nos. 62, 63, 64, and 65 :

62. *Descriptive Catalogue of Pali MSS. in the Adyar Library*, by Dr. E. W. Adikaram.

63. *Haricarita of Paramesvara*—Edited by Paṇḍit V. Krishnamacharya with his own Commentary.

64. *Gautama-Dharmasūtra-Parissīṣṭa* (Second Prasna)—Edited by A. N. Krishna Aiyangar.

65. *Samkalpasūryodaya of Śrī Veikaṭanātha* with the Commentaries Prabhāvilāsa and Prabhāvalī. Edited by Paṇḍit V. Krishnamacharya Part I and Part II.

(b) Pamphlets :

Samskṛtagranthivighaṭana—by Prof. C. Kunhan Raja.

Candravākya of Vararuci—Edited by Prof. C. Kunhan Raja with Appendices.

Bhārata-Rāṣṭra-Saṅghaṭanā (Indian Constitution in Sanskrit verses)—a sample—by Prof. C. Kunhan Raja.

Sanskrit In India—by G. Srinivasa Murthi,

(c) The *Adyar Library Bulletin*, Vol. XI, part 4 ; Vol. XII, parts 1, 2, Diamond Jubilee Supplement and part 3.

B. NEW WORKS COMPLETED AND ISSUED BETWEEN 1ST OCTOBER 1948 AND THE DATE OF THIS REPORT

Varivasyārahasyā of Bhāskaraṛāya with his own Commentary. Edited with English Translation etc. By Paṇḍit S. Subrahmanya Sastri, Adyar Library Series No. 28—second edition—Reprinted.

C. WORKS IN PROGRESS THROUGH THE PRESS

Caturdasalakṣaṇī of Gadādhara with three commentaries. Vol. II by Paṇḍit N. Santanam Aiyar.

Āpastambasmṛti—Edited by A. N. Krishna Aiyangar.

Samgītaratnākara—With the Commentaries of Catura Kallinātha and Simhabhūpāla. Edited by Paṇḍit S. Subrahmanya Sastri, Vol III.

Horāsāstra—with the commentary Apurvārthapradarsikā by A. N. Srinivasaraghava Aiyangar.

Sālistambhasūtra—Restored from Tibetan and Chinese Sources—by Paṇḍit N. Aiyaswami Sastri.

Samgītaratnākara, English Translation—Vol. II, by Prof. C. Kunhan Raja.

A Descriptive Catalogue of Sanskrit MSS. in the Adyar Library, by H. G. Narahari, Vol. V—Poetry, Drama and Poetics.

Aristotle's Katharsis and Bharata's Sthāyibhāvas—by Prof. C. Kunhan Raja.

D. WORKS COMPLETED AND READY FOR THE PRESS

Āśvalāyanagrhyasūtra with the Commentaries of Devasvāmin and Nārāyaṇa. Vol. II. Edited by Svami Ravi Tirtha.

Nyāyakusumāñjali of Udayana with the Commentary of Varadarāja. Edited by Prof. C. Kunhan Raja.

Caturdalakṣaṇī of Gadādhara—with commentaries. Edited by Paṇḍit N. Santanam Aiyar, Vol. III.

Pakṣatā of Gadādhara—with four commentaries Edited by Paṇḍit N. Santanam Aiyar.

Siddhāntalakṣaṇam of Gadādhara with commentaries. Edited by Paṇḍit N. Santanam Aiyar.

Avayava of Gadādhara—with commentaries. Edited by Paṇḍit N. Santanam Aiyar.

Sāmānyanirukti of Gadādhara—with commentaries. Edited by Paṇḍit N. Santanam Aiyar.

Vyutpattivāda of Gadādhara—with commentaries. Edited by Paṇḍit N. Santanam Aiyar.

Saiva and Śākta Upaniṣads—Translated into English by T. R. Srinivasa Aiyangar and G. Srinivasa Murthi.

Ten Major Upaniṣads—English Translation by T. R. Srinivasa Aiyangar and G. Srinivasa Murthi.

IV

Books and Manuscripts.—The total number of volumes added during the year is 1040 books and 320 pamphlets, 15 Manuscripts and 34 transcripts. Of these 75 books were purchased, 927 presented and the rest received for review. Of the Pamphlets 35 were purchased and the rest donated. A complete list of the Manuscripts added during the year is printed under *Annexure 8*. A full list of all the additions of books etc. is deferred as in earlier years. However, a full list of the Donors is printed under *Annexure 9*.

Besides the above additions two collections were donated to the Library the first by Mr. A. S. Venkat Raman on behalf of his father Mr. S. A. Seshagiri, Deputy Assistant Controller of Military Accounts, Poona (Retired) consisting of 725 volumes and the other

being the collection of the late Mr. Frei received from Ceylon. Many of these are duplicate copies of books already available in the Library.

V

Use of the Library.—The Number of visitors to the Library was 16,632. 2248 books and Manuscripts were borrowed and 17,374 consulted.

VI

Exchanges.—I record our appreciation of the various institutions, journals, universities and other learned bodies that continue their exchange relationship with the Adyar Library. We also welcome the new journals in Vernacular and English that have started functioning during the last year.

VII

Donations.—We have received intimation that the late Mr. H. Frei has left a bequest of Rs. 5000/- for the Adyar Library through the Executors of his will. Mr. Frei continued to donate sums to the Library for a considerable long time and in his demise the Library has lost a constant friend and benefactor. We hope that the void created by his demise will soon be filled up by other donors and well-wishers interested in the work of the Adyar Library.

A further sum of Rs. 791-12-0 was received from the estate of Miss E. A. De la Cherois Crommellin bringing the total to Rs. 8,850-4-2. To the memory of these donors we tender our most sincere and grateful thanks.

VIII

Diamond Jubilee.—The most important event of the year was the celebration of the Diamond Jubilee of the Adyar Library which was conducted as part

of the Besant Centenary Celebrations. A public meeting was conducted on 2-10-47 presided over by Dr. C. R. Reddy, Vice-Chancellor of the Andhra University. The Jubilee address was delivered (in English) by Sir S. Varadachariyar, Retired Chief Justice of the Federal Court of India. Sri A. V. Gopalacharya's address in Sanskrit was read by Dr. C. Kunhan Raja. In the afternoon a 'Paṇḍita Pariṣad' was held in which distinguished Paṇḍits took part and discussed several important questions in Sanskrit. The pariṣad was continued on the afternoon of the 3rd also. The Paṇḍits were honoured by the Library by the presentation of some of the publications of the Library, with a *Vyāsa Pīṭha* each, for *pārāyaṇam*. The *Vyāsa Pīṭhas* were supplied free of cost by Mr. Seshagiri, Proprietor of the Curzon & Co., Madras. The Junior Paṇḍits were also honoured appropriately. Thus the Adyar Library has well and truly laid the foundation of an All India Sammelana of the Paṇḍits. A complete account of the Jubilee celebrations was published by the Library in the form of a Supplement to the *Adyar Library Bulletin*, in March 1948.

We once more record our most grateful thanks to our President Sri C. Jinarājadāsa for his second munificent donation of Rs. 1000/- for meeting the expenses of the Diamond Jubilee, which made it possible for us to cele-

brate the occasion in the fitting manner in which it was done.

IX

Our most imperative need at the present moment is funds for making a balanced budget for the Library, which the President-Founder described as "that child of my brain, that hope of my heart." A separate appeal is being issued shortly for raising funds for the upkeep of the Library.

X

Acknowledgments.—I now come to the most pleasing part of recording my most grateful thanks to all my colleagues. I am particularly thankful to Prof. C. Kunhan Raja, M.A., D. Phil. (Oxon.), Curator, Adyar Library, Mrs. A. H. Peterson, Librarian and others who have helped the Library in an honorary capacity. I further record my most grateful thanks to all the Honorary Editors, Dr. E. W. Adikaram, Prof. K. V. Rangaswami Aiyangar, Paṇḍit N. Aiyaswami Sastri, Paṇḍit Vaidyaratna Duraiswami Aiyangar and Sri A. N. Srinivasaraghava Aiyangar for the services they continue to render to the Library. To the Governments and institutions which continue to send their publications to the Library I tender my most grateful thanks.

G. SRINIVASA MURTI,

Hon. Director.

XIII

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of the Besant Centenary Celebrations. A public meeting was conducted on 2-10-47 presided over by Dr. C. R. Reddy, Vice-Chancellor of the Andhra University. The Jubilee address was delivered (in English) by Sir S. Varadachariyar, Retired Chief Justice of the Federal Court of India. Sri A. V. Gopalacharya's address in Sanskrit was read by Dr. C. Kunhan Raja. In the afternoon a 'Paṇḍita Pariṣad' was held in which distinguished Paṇḍits took part and discussed several important questions in Sanskrit. The pariṣad was continued on the afternoon of the 3rd also. The Paṇḍits were honoured by the Library by the presentation of some of the publications of the Library, with a *Vyāsa Pīṭha* each, for *pārāyaṇam*. The *Vyāsa Pīṭhas* were supplied free of cost by Mr. Seshagiri, Proprietor of the Curzon & Co., Madras. The Junior Paṇḍits were also honoured appropriately. Thus the Adyar Library has well and truly laid the foundation of an All India Sammelana of the Paṇḍits. A complete account of the Jubilee celebrations was published by the Library in the form of a Supplement to the *Adyar Library Bulletin*, in March 1948.

STATISTICAL ABSTRACTS

ANNEXURE 1

PANDIT V. KRISHNAMACHARYA

	1945-1946	1946-1947	1947-1948
Descriptive Catalogue—			
MSS. Examined ...	750 ¹	750 ¹	...
Descriptive Catalogue—Slips prepared and revised ...	500 ¹	120 ¹	...
Literary Contributions ...	4	4	2
Correction of proofs for books edited in the Library Series pages—	...	800 ¹	800 ¹
Manuscripts Examined and referred to	...	...	250

ANNEXURE 2

H. G. NARAHARI

Literary Contributions ...	4	5	2
Reviews to the Bulletin ...	1	1	1
Manuscripts described for the Descriptive Catalogue ...	106	270	153
Do. Manuscripts revised ...	...	...	510
Descriptive Catalogue—Mahākāvya section—pages printed ...	...	...	160 ²

ANNEXURE 3

V. NARAYANASWAMI SASTRI

Granthas copied ...	11,600	9,247	27,235
Do. Compared ...	60,510	63,149	9,430
Estimates for charges for transcription. No. of Granthas ...	23,200	33,272	53,800
Stock taken for Library. No. of MSS. ...	...	14,798	...
Loan-slip prepared ...	...	...	20

ANNEXURE 4

K. RAMACHANDRA SARMA

Assisted in preparing press copy and proof correction—pp. ...	320 ³	820 ³	800 ³
Assisted in the preparation of Descriptive slip for Des. Cata. Vol. V ...	...	...	300 ⁴

¹ Indicates assistance received by Paṇḍit Krishnamacharya from Paṇḍit K. Ramachandra Sarma.

² Indicates assistance received by Mr. Narahari from Paṇḍit K. Ramachandra Sarma.

³ Assistance rendered to Paṇḍit Krishnamacharya.

⁴ Assistance rendered to Mr. Narahari.

Press copy prepared for works edited in the Library Series—pp.	110 ¹	950 ¹	500 ¹
Manuscripts examined for Miscellaneous Information and Office Correspondence ...	150	450	200

ANNEXURE 5

N. RAMACHANDRA BHATT

Granthas copied ...	19,279	29,898	19,458
Do. Compared ...	1,17,091 ²	1,02,163 ²	2,02,525 ³
Assisted in the Examination of Manuscripts for Descriptive Catalogue Work—Dharma-sūtra MSS. examined ...	52 ³	152 ³	108 ³
Corrected proofs for the Adyar Library Series ...	...	...	518 ³

ANNEXURE 6

A. N. KRISHNA AIYANGAR

No. of Manuscripts Examined for Descriptive Catalogue ...	52 ⁴	152 ⁴	108 ⁴
No. of Granthas compared ...	51,000 ⁴	55,000 ⁴	50,000 ⁴
Prepared for the Press and passed for printing Gautama Dharma-sūtra-pariśiṣṭa — pages—proofs 1, 2 and 3 ...	...	...	518 ⁴

ANNEXURE 7

K. T. VENKATARAMA SARMA⁵

Granthas copied ...	...	...	2,500
Do. compared ...	...	...	3,000
Books and MSS. Registered ...	...	...	570
Index cards ...	...	...	650
Books classified ...	...	...	150
MSS—checked—taken on loan for consultation ...	...	...	1,850

¹ Assistance rendered to Paṇḍit Krishnamacharya.² Indicates work done with Paṇḍit Narayanaswami Sastri and Mr. A. N. Krishna Aiyangar.³ Assisted Sri A. N. Krishna Aiyangar.⁴ Received assistance from Paṇḍit N. Ramachandara Bhatt.⁵ Mr. K. T. Venkatarama Sarma was made Paṇḍit Assistant only with effect from 1-2-48. Figures are given for eight months only.

ANNEXURE 8

LIST OF MSS. REGISTERED IN 1947-48

Palm-leaf

Serial No.	Title of the Work
75897	Nāmaṅgaṇaśāsanam.
75898	S'is'upālavadhāḥ.
75899	Abhidhamma.
75900	" Tanvanna (Concise).
75901	" Vittu.
	(History of Narada-Katapa)
75902	Khudda Theikkha Neithaya
	A Priest's Religious Duties.
75903	Mahaneidetha Pali-Taw Abhidhamma.
75904	Parizikan of Vinaya (Religions of Duty).
75905	Abhidhamma.
75906	Kacchayana's Grammar.
75907	Kacchayana Nassaya and Nyatha Akok.
75908	Yamaka of Abhidhamma Pitaka.
75909	Mūlapaṇṇāsa Majjhimanikāya.
75910	Mimāṃsākaustubha.
75911	Sarvasiddhāntasaṃgraha

Transcripts

64909-10	Sāstradīpikā-Vyākhyā-Āloka.
64911	" Prakāśaḥ.
64912	Vīrasimhāvalokaḥ.
64913	Kaṅkhavitarani.
64914-5	Śrutabodhaṭṭikā-Jyotsnā.
64916	Vṛttaratnākara-Vyākhyā-Mṛtasamjivani.
64917	Saṃkalpasūryodayavyākhyā (Prabhāvali).
64918-9	"
64920	Arthapañcakanāṭaka.
63921	Saṃgītasudhākara.
64922	Māṇḍūkyopaniṣadkārīkābhāṣyaṭippaṇam.
64923	Prāyaścittadīpikā.
64924	Anusmṛti-Vyākhyā.
64925	Saptapadārthi-Vyākhyā-Padārthadīpikā.
64926	Bhāṭṭadīpikāvyākhyā-Prabhāvali.
64927	Vādakutūhalam.
64928	Brahmasūtrabhāṣyasiddhāntasāraḥ.
64929	Siddhāntacintāmaṇiḥ.
64930	Prāpatyupāyatvanirṇayaḥ.
64931	Tyāgaśabdārthatiṭṭhaṇi.
64932	Rāmānujasiddhāntasaṃgrahavyākhyā.
64933	Paddhatiparicaryā etc.
64934	"
64935	Rāmācāraṇaparicaryā with Commentary.
64936	Rādhāmādhavapadaparicaryā.
64937	Kṛṣṇacāraṇaparicaryāvivṛtiḥ.

64938	Gāyatriarthavicāra.
64939	Mahābhāsyapradīpa-Vyākhyā-Prakāśaḥ.
64940	Udyotaḥ.
64941	Paribhāṣāpradīpārciḥ.
64942	Kātantravṛttiprakāśaḥ.

ANNEXURE 9

LIST OF DONORS

Sri P. M. Advani, Adyar Library Publications, E. M. Amery, Ananda Publishing House, T. S. Benares, R. N. Anifar, Anup Sanskrit Library, Bikaner, M. V. Apparow, N. Appa Rao, Artist, Aruna, Aurobindu Pathamandir, Calcutta, Balakrishna Mehta, W. I. Battin, R. S. Baverstock, M. Beddow Bayly, Bhagirathi Ammal, Bhāratīya Vidya Bhavan, Bombay, D. M. Borgaonkar, J. F. Bulsara, W. W. Carrington, P. Cazin, Chandra Banerji, Sures, Mr. & Mrs. Chase, L. A. Chase, G. D. Chhabani, A. Chockalinga Pillay, S. S. Chunilal, L. L. Clementis, Mrs. Jane Clumeck, Collector of Chingleput, J. H. Cousins, J. L. Davidge, J. L. Davidge (from Rabbi C. N. Stave), C. D. Deshmukh, Dharmapuram Adhinam, East Tamil Federation, T. S. Adyar, A. Elmore, S. Fernando, S. Fozdar, H. Frei, Gaudiya Math, Calcutta, Adolfo de la Peña Gil, P. K. Gode, V. V. Gokhale, A. V. Gopalacharya, B. Gopaliah, N. A. Gore, P. Govindarajulu, Mrs. N. Gray, A. H. Graham, W. J. Green, D. Greenlees, G. H. Hall, F. J. W. Halsey, A. J. Hamerster, E. Havrevold, Enrique de la Hor, K. V. Hora, Indo-Polish Library, Bombay, Information Department, Indian Press (for Railway Board), M. A. Janaki, V. K. Jhavani, C. Jinarāja-dāsa, S. C. Janey, Capt. R. L. Jones, Kamakshi Ambal Devastana, Conjeevaram, M. A. Kamath, A. Kamensky, K. Kapaleeshwar, Karunakaran Nayar, Kerala Theosophical Federation, Ernakulam, P. S. Krishnaswamy, A. Kuppuswami Sastri, Lakshmi Narayana, Kodali, Leadbeater Chambers, T. S. Adyar, League of Parents and Teachers, Mani Sahukar, Mason, Mulakanadu Sabha, Madras, Narayana Guru Celebration Committee, C. Narayana Rao, Navarro Santiago Arias, Oakland T. S. Lodge, Olcott (Wheaton), Olcott Cottage Library, Oxford University, A. H. Peterson, Phupatbhai Mehta, Pierce Leslie Pielou, E. Preston, V. Raghavan, Ramachandra Dikshitar, K. Ramachandra Sarma, V. D. Ramaswamy Aiyangar, Ramayya (Chittamuru), A. Ranganathan, Recording Secretary, T. S. Adyar, E. B. Ribeiro, A. B. Robson, N. Roerich, K. J. Roy, Royal Asiatic Society of Bengal, Rukmini Devi, Sastoo Vanchan Karyalaya, J. D. V. Buren, Schele Sewanand, C. V. Shah, Sikh Youth League, K. G. Sivaswamy, Sociedad Teosofica de Cuba, B. Somananda, Madame Spruitenberg, Srinivasa Aiyangar, Srinivasa Iyer, Mayil Pannai, P. N. Srinivasachari, G. Srinivasa Murti, N. Sri Ram, N. Sri Ram and G. R. Venkataraman, C. N. Stewart, M. Subrahmanyam, C. Subramani and Sambanda Murti, V. Subramanya Sastri, Superintendent, Gaudiya Math, Swaminatha Iyer Library, T. S. Adyar, J. S. Taraporewala, A. Tavera, Theosophical Society, Bombay, Poona, London, New-Zealand, Theosophical Publishing House, T. S. Adyar, Theosophical Tamil Publishing Society, Theosophical World University, Theosophist, Tirumalai Tirupati Devasthanam, Tirumalai Tirupati Devasthanam Mahant Prayagadasji, Vichārāpakarta of Devasthanam, Umadevi, United Nations Dept. Public Information, United States Consul, University of Illinois, University of Missouri, P. W. Vandenbroek, Vani Press, Bezvada, K. Venkatappayya, G. Venkataraman, Venkatarama Rao, (Pulipaka), G. Venkatachalam, R. Vreeswijk, G. Watkin, World Citizen's Association.

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

FOUNDED NOVEMBER 17, 1825. INCORPORATED APRIL 3, 1905.

MEMORANDUM
OF
ASSOCIATION, ETC.

CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION.

No. 2 of 1905.

I hereby certify, pursuant to Act XXI of 1860 of the Governor-General of India in Council entitled "An Act for the Registration of Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies, 1860," that The Theosophical Society is duly incorporated as a Society under the aforesaid Act.



(Sd.) A. PERIYASWAMI MOODALIAR,
Registrar of Joint Stock Companies.

Station, Madras,
Dated 3rd April 1905.

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

FOUNDED NOVEMBER 17, 1875. INCORPORATED APRIL 3, 1905.

*In the matter of Act XXI of 1860 of the Acts of the Viceroy
and Governor-General of India in Council, being
an Act for the registration of literary,
scientific and charitable Societies
and*

IN THE MATTER OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

1. The name of the Association is The Theosophical Society.

2. The objects for which the Society is established are :

I. To form a nucleus of the Universal Brotherhood of Humanity, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour.

II. To encourage the study of Comparative Religion, Philosophy, and Science.

III. To investigate unexplained laws of Nature and the powers latent in man.

(a) The holding and management of all funds raised for the above objects.

(b) The purchase or acquisition on lease or in exchange or on hire

or by gift or otherwise of any real or personal property, and any rights or privileges necessary or convenient for the purposes of the Society.

(c) The sale, improvement, management and development of all or any part of the property of the Society.

(d) The doing of all such things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them, including the founding and maintenance of a library or libraries.

3. The names, addresses and occupations of the persons who are members of, and form the first General Council which is the governing body of the Society, are as follow :

GENERAL COUNCIL

Ex-Officio

President-Founder :—H. S. Olcott, Adyar, Madras, Author.

Vice-President :—A. P. Sinnett, London, England, Author.

Recording-Secretary :—Hon. Sir S. Subramania Aiyar, Madras, Justice of the High Court.

Treasurer :—W. A. English, M.D., Adyar, Madras, Retired Physician.

- Alexander Fullerton, General Secretary, American Section, 7, West 8th St., New York.
- Upendra Nath Basu, B.A., LL.B., General Secretary, Indian Section, Benares, U.P.
- Bertram Keightley, M.A., General Secretary, British Section, 28, Albemarle St., London, W.
- W. G. John, General Secretary, Australasian Section, 42, Margaret Street, Sydney, N.S.W.
- Arvid Knös, General Secretary, Scandinavian Section, Engelbrechtsgatan, 7, Stockholm, Sweden.
- C. W. Sanders, General Secretary, New Zealand Section, Queen Street, Auckland, N.Z.
- W. B. Fricke, General Secretary, Netherlands Section, 76, Amsteldijk, Amsterdam.
- Th. Pascal, M.D., General Secretary, French Section, 59, Avenue de La Bourdonnais, Paris.
- Decio Calvari, General Secretary, Italian Section, 380, Corso Umberto I., Rome.
- Dr. Rudolf Steiner, General Secretary, German Section, 95, Kaiserallee, Friedenau, Berlin.
- Jose M. Massó, Acting General Secretary, Cuban Section, Havana, Cuba.

Additional

- Annie Besant, Benares, Author, [for 3 years].
- G. R. S. Mead, London, Author, [for 3 years].
- Khan Bahadur Naoroji Dorabji Khandalwala, Poona, Special Judge [for 3 years].
- Dinshaw Jivaji Edal Behram, Surat, Physician, [for 2 years].
- Francesca E. Arundale, Benares, Author, [for 2 years].
- Tammacharla Ramachandra Row, Gooty, Retired Sub-Judge, [for 1 year].
- Charles Blech, Paris, France, Retired Manufacturer, [for 1 year].

4. Henry Steel Olcott, who with the late Helena Petrovna Blavatsky and others founded the Theosophical Society at New York, United States of America, in the year 1875, shall hold, during his lifetime, the position of President, with the title of "President-Founder," and he shall have, alone, the authority and responsibility and shall exercise the functions provided in the Rules and Regulations for the Executive Committee, meetings of which he may call for consultation and advice as he may desire.

5. The income and property of the Society, whencesoever derived, shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Society as set forth in this Memorandum of Association, and no portion thereof shall be

paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividends, bonus, or otherwise by way of profits to the persons who at any time are or have been members of the Society or to any of them or to any person claiming through any of them: Provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of remuneration to any officers or servants of the Society or to any member thereof or other person in return for any services rendered to the Society.

6. No member or members of the General Council shall be answerable for any loss arising in the administration or application of the said trust funds or sums of money or for any damage to or deterioration in the said trust premises unless such loss, damage

or deterioration shall happen by or through his or their wilful default or neglect.

7. If upon the dissolution of the Society there shall remain after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Society or any of them, but shall be given or transferred to some other Society or Association, Institution or Institutions, having objects similar to the objects of this Society, to be determined by the votes of not less than three-fifths of the members of the Society present per-

Witnesses to the signatures :

(Sd.) WM. GLENNY KEAGEY ...

„ ARTHUR RICHARDSON ...

„ PYARE LAL ...

„ PEROZE P. MEHERJEE ...

sonally or by proxy at a meeting called for the purpose, or in default thereof by such Judge or Court of Law as may have jurisdiction in the matter.

8. A copy of the Rules and Regulations of the said Theosophical Society is filed with this Memorandum of Association, and the undersigned being seven of the members of the Governing Body of the said Society do hereby certify that such copy of such Rules and Regulations of the said Theosophical Society is correct.

As witness our several and respective hands, this . . day of March 1905.

{	(Sd.) H. S. OLCOTT
	„ W. A. ENGLISH
	„ SUBRAMANIAM
	„ FRANCESCA E. ARUNDALE
	„ UPENDRANATH BASU
	„ ANNIE BESANT
	„ N. D. KHANDALVALA

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION NAMED "THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY," ADYAR, MADRAS

1. The General Council shall be the Governing Body of The Theosophical Society. Not less than seven members of this Council shall be residents of India.

2. (a) The President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, the Recording Secretary, the President of the World Federation of Young Theosophists and the General Secretaries of the component National Societies (otherwise called Sections) shall *ex-officio* be members of the General Council. The terms of those members of the General Council who hold office *ex-officio* shall expire with the vacation of their qualifying office.

(b) The General Council shall include not less than 5 and not more than 10 Additional Members, such

members shall on the nomination of the President be elected for a term of three years by vote of the General Council at its Annual Meeting, their names having been sent to the Members of the General Council at least three months before the Annual Meeting.

(c) Members retiring shall be eligible for re-election.

(d) The Recording Secretary shall be the Secretary of the General Council.

3. It shall be competent for the General Council to remove any of its members, or any officer of The Society excepting the President of The Theosophical Society and excepting the General Secretaries of National Societies, by a three-fourths majority of its whole number of members, at a special

meeting called for the purpose, of which at least three months' notice shall have been given, the quorum consisting, however, of not less than five members.

4. The General Council shall ordinarily meet once a year, at the time of the Annual Meeting or Convention of The Society; but a special meeting may be called at any time by the President, and shall be called at any time by him, or if not by him, by the Recording Secretary, on the written requisition of not less than one-fourth of the total number of members; but of such special meetings not less than three months' notice shall be given, and the notice shall contain a statement of the special business to be laid before the meeting.

5. At all meetings of the General Council, members thereof may vote in person, or in writing, or by proxy duly given to another member of the General Council for the particular meeting concerned. Except as aforesaid no member shall exercise more than one vote. No member shall be allowed to exercise more than 5 proxy votes.

Note: Meetings include Adjourned Meetings.

6. The quorum of an ordinary as well as of a special meeting of the General Council shall be five members. If there be no quorum, the meeting may be adjourned *sine die*, or the Chairman of the meeting may adjourn it to another date, of which three months' further notice shall be given, when the business of the meeting shall be disposed of, irrespective of whether there is a quorum present or not.

7. The President, or in his absence the Vice-President, of The Society, shall preside at all meetings of The Theosophical Society or of the General Council, and shall have a casting vote in the case of an equal division of the members voting on any question before the meeting.

8. In the absence of the President and the Vice-President, the meeting shall elect a chairman from among the members present at the meeting, and he shall have a casting vote in the case of a tie.

9. The term of office of the President shall be seven years.

10. Six months before the expiration of a President's term of office, or within three days of the office becoming vacant, the Recording Secretary shall call for nominations for the office of President from the members of the General Council, each of whom shall be entitled to make not more than three nominations. Such call to members outside India shall be by cable, confirmed within two days by air and ordinary mails. Each member of the General Council who is a General Secretary shall consult with the respective National Governing Council and shall make his nominations on its behalf. Nominations of any member or members in good standing, whose consent as laid down hereunder shall be necessary for the validity of the nomination, shall be sent to the Recording Secretary, so as to reach him within two months of the date of the call for nominations.

At the expiration of this period the Recording Secretary shall place all the nominations received along with the relevant papers before the Executive Committee at a meeting specially convened for the purpose. At such meeting the Executive Committee shall examine the nominations. All nominations for which the consent of the nominated member has not been filed in the office of the Recording Secretary within the period of two months just preceding shall be rejected as invalid. The rest shall be counted, and the names of those receiving the three highest numbers of nominations, (or any lesser number of names, if less than three are nominated) together with any others who have been nominated by

not less than half the members of the General Council, shall be those to be voted upon. Such a list made by the Executive Committee shall not be subject to challenge.

The Recording Secretary shall communicate the list of nominees to be voted upon, to the General Secretaries, and to Lodges and Fellows-at-large attached to the Headquarters at Adyar. Such communication to the General Secretaries outside India shall be by cable, confirmed within two days by air mail and ordinary mail, and to the others by air mail confirmed within two days by ordinary mail. Each General Secretary shall take the individual vote of each of the voter-members of his Section, that is, of members of the National Society on his rolls who are not in arrears of annual dues for more than one year at the close of the previous official year of the Section, and shall communicate the result to the Recording Secretary, who shall himself take the votes of the Lodges and Fellows-at-large attached to the Headquarters at Adyar, who are not in arrears of annual dues for more than one year at the close of the previous official year of the Society at Adyar.

If only one member is nominated the vote so taken shall be on a "For" or "Against" ballot.

At the expiration of four months from the issue of the nominations by the Recording Secretary, the results of the voting shall be counted by him. The Executive Committee shall appoint two of its members as scrutineers. The nominee receiving the greatest number of votes shall be declared elected to the office of President.

If the voting results in the highest number of votes being given equally to two or more of the nominees, or if the voting upon the "For" or "Against" ballot results in the rejection of the one member receiving nomination, the nomination and election procedure here-

in provided shall be repeated and the President then in office or the Vice-President, if he is temporarily filling such office, shall continue therein until a new President is elected.

11. (a) The President shall nominate the Vice-President, subject to confirmation by the General Council, and his term of Office shall continue till a new Vice-President has been nominated and his nomination confirmed by the General Council. It shall be his duty, among other things, to carry on the executive functions of the President in case the President is dead or where the Executive Committee finds that he is disabled by accident, serious illness or otherwise from performing the duties of the President.

(b) Notwithstanding anything herein contained the Vice-President doing the duties of the President shall continue to be the Vice-President of The Society until a new Vice-President has been nominated and his nomination confirmed by the General Council. In case of death, resignation or permanent disability of such Vice-President doing the duties of the President, the Executive Committee shall appoint a Vice-President who shall hold Office until the new President shall have nominated a new Vice-President and his nomination be confirmed by the General Council.

12. The President shall appoint the Treasurer, the Recording Secretary and such subordinate officials as he may find necessary, which appointments shall be reported to the Executive Committee at its next following meeting, and shall continue to be valid unless rejected by a majority of votes of the whole number of members of the Executive Committee, voting in person or by proxy, at the said meeting, the newly appointed Treasurer or Recording Secretary not being present, nor counting as a member of the Executive Committee for purposes of such vote.

13. The Treasurer, Recording Secretary and subordinate officials being assistants to the President in his capacity as executive officer of the General Council, the President shall have the authority to remove any appointee of his own to such offices.

14. The General Council shall at each Annual Meeting appoint an Executive Committee for the ensuing year, of not less than seven and not more than ten members, of whom at least six shall be members of the General Council. The President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, and the Recording Secretary, shall be *ex-officio* members. Vacancies caused by death or resignation or otherwise may be filled by co-optation.

15. The Executive Committee shall meet at least once in every three months for the receipt and consideration of accounts and the despatch of any other business. A special meeting may be called by the President whenever he thinks fit, and such meeting shall be called by him, or if not by him, by the Recording Secretary, when he is required to do so, by not less than three members of the Committee, who shall state to him in writing the business for which they wish the meeting to assemble.

16. At a meeting of the Executive Committee, three members shall constitute a quorum.

17. The Committee shall, in the absence of the President and Vice-President, elect a Chairman to preside over the meeting and in case of equality of votes the Chairman for the time being shall have a casting vote.

18. The President shall be the custodian of all the archives and records of The Society, and shall be the Executive Officer and shall conduct and direct the business of The Society in compliance with its rules; he shall be empowered to make temporary appointments and to fill provisionally all vacancies that occur in the offices of

The Society, and shall have discretionary powers in all matters not specifically provided for in these Rules.

19. All subscriptions, donations and other moneys payable to the Association shall be received by the President, or the Treasurer, or the Recording Secretary, the receipt of either of whom in writing shall be sufficient discharge for the same.

20. The securities and uninvested funds of The Society shall be deposited in the Imperial Bank of India, Madras, or such other Bank or Banks as the Executive Committee, T.S., shall select; and in countries outside of India, in such Banks as the President shall select. Cheques drawn against the funds shall be signed by the President or the Treasurer or the Recording Secretary of The Society.

21. (a) Notwithstanding anything in these rules to the contrary the President may, touching the assets and affairs of The Society beyond British India, at any time and from time to time by a Power of Attorney appoint any persons to be the Attorneys of The Society for such period and subject to such conditions and for such purposes and with such authorities and powers as he may think fit, and he may if necessary affix the Seal of The Society thereto.

Without prejudice to the general powers conferred as aforesaid, the President may grant power and authority among others to sell, grant mortgage, lease or otherwise transfer the assets of The Society, movable or immovable, real or personal, and to receive subscriptions, donations, legacies, moneys and other property movable, or immovable, and to institute, continue, compromise, compound or refer to arbitration any actions, suits, or other proceedings, and to take and hold shares in any Company, and to vote at any meetings thereof, and to subdelegate all or any of his powers, and to give receipts and releases,

and to sign, seal and deliver any instrument or document and have the same registered.

(b) The funds of The Society may be invested by the President, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, in Government or other Public securities, or in the purchase of immovable property or First Mortgages on such property.

(c) The Adyar Estate of The Society in Madras including The Society's original Headquarters and all other properties in Adyar since acquired by gift, purchase or otherwise, shall not at any time be disposed of by sale, gift, exchange, mortgage or otherwise; save that the President, if specially authorized by a resolution of the General Council, passed by a three-fourths vote of their members, voting in person, in writing or by proxy, may dispose of such outlying portions of the said Adyar Estate, as may be specified in such Resolutions.

(d) The President may, with the advice, and consent of the Executive Committee, sell, mortgage or otherwise transfer any investment in Government or other Public securities, or any movable or immovable property of The Society other than those mentioned in Rule 21 (c).

22. (a) All deeds whereby immovable properties belonging to The Society are transferred or otherwise dealt with shall have affixed to them the Seal of The Society with the signature of the President and of the Recording Secretary. In case of the absence of the President or where the Executive Committee finds that he is too ill to act, it may appoint two of its members to sign in place of the President.

(b) All transfers of movable property, if in writing, shall bear the signature of the President and of the Recording Secretary but need not have affixed to them the Seal of The Society. In case of the absence of the President or where the Executive Committee finds

that he is too ill to act, it may appoint two of its members to sign in place of the President.

Note.—The procedure detailed in this Rule is without prejudice to the powers conferred under Rule 21 (a).

23. The Society may sue and be sued in the name of the President.

24. The Recording Secretary may, with the authority of the President, or of the two substitutes appointed according to Rule 22, affix the Seal of The Society on all instruments requiring to be sealed, and all such instruments shall be signed by the President or by the two substitutes above mentioned and the Recording Secretary.

25. On the death or resignation of the President, the Recording Secretary shall at once make arrangements for the election of a new President, in accordance with Rule 10, and until such new President is elected the Vice-President shall perform the duties of President.

HEADQUARTERS

26. Headquarters of The Society are established at Adyar, Madras, and are outside the jurisdiction of the Indian Section.

27. The President shall have full power and discretion to permit to any person the use of any portion of the Headquarters' premises for occupation and residence, on such terms as the President may lay down, or to refuse permission so to occupy or reside. Any person occupying or residing under the permission granted by the President shall, on a fortnight's notice given by or on behalf of the President, unconditionally quit the premises before the expiry of that period.

ORGANIZATION

28. Every person of ten full years of age, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour, shall be

eligible for membership in the Society, but those under the age of majority in their respective countries shall be admitted to membership only with the written consent of parent or guardian.

29. Admission to membership may be obtained through the President of a Lodge, the General Secretary of a National Society, or through the Recording Secretary; and a Diploma of membership shall be issued to the Fellow, bearing the signature of the President, and countersigned by the General Secretary, where the applicant resides within the territory of a National Society, or countersigned by the Recording Secretary, if admission to membership has been obtained through the Recording Secretary.

30. Lodges and Fellows, whether unattached or attached to a Lodge, residing within the territory of a National Society, must belong to that National Society, unless coming under Rule 31.

Provided that with the sanction of the President a member who belongs to one National Society may while retaining his membership of that National Society belong to another National Society, but he shall not be allowed to cast more than one vote in matters relating to The Theosophical Society.

31. (a) When an individual Fellow in good standing, for any serious and weighty reason, sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, is desirous of leaving the National Society to which he belongs, but is not desirous of leaving The Theosophical Society, such individual Fellow may become directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, severing all connection with the National Society. Such application must be made through the General Secretary of the National Society concerned. This shall equally apply in the case of the admission of any new member.

(b) A Fellow of The Theosophical Society in good standing who is

desirous of leaving the National Society to which he or she belongs or ought to belong under Rule 30 and of joining another National Society, may be permitted by the President to do so provided such Fellow presents reason sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, and provided further that the application for transfer is submitted with the approval of the General Secretaries of both National Societies concerned.

This rule shall apply equally in the case of the admission of a new member.

(c) When a Lodge, for any serious and weighty reason, sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, is desirous of leaving the National Society to which it belongs, but is not desirous of leaving The Theosophical Society, such Lodge may become directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, severing all connection with the National Society. Such application must be made through the General Secretary of the National Society concerned.

Before any Lodge shall have the right to apply to be directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, it shall have mailed to each of its members individually a notice that such application is about to be considered. Such notice must be mailed not less than two weeks before the meeting at which such consideration is to take place, and voting on the application shall be deferred until two months after that meeting. If at such first meeting, or any succeeding meeting pursuant thereto, it is decided to bring the application to a vote as herein provided, a full report of the reasons for such action shall at once be sent to the General Secretary of the National Society concerned.

Any application for separation from the National Society to which a Lodge belongs shall be ineffective unless two-thirds of the members of the Lodge vote in favour thereof.

32. Lodges or Fellows-at-large, in countries where no National Society exists, must apply for their Charters or Diplomas directly to the Recording Secretary, and may not, without the sanction of the President, belong to National Societies within the territorial limits of which they are not situated or resident.

33. Any seven Fellows may apply to be chartered as a Lodge. In a country where no National Society exists the application must be forwarded to the President of The Society through the Recording Secretary.

34. The President shall have authority to grant or refuse applications for Charters, which, if issued, must bear his signature and that of the Recording Secretary, and the Seal of The Society, and be recorded at the Headquarters of The Society.

35. A National Society may be formed by the President, upon the application of seven or more chartered Lodges.

36. All Charters of National Societies or Lodges and all Diplomas of membership derive their authority from the President, acting as Executive officer of the General Council of The Society, and may be cancelled by the same authority.

37. Each Lodge and National Society shall have the power of making its own Rules, provided they do not conflict with the Rules of The Theosophical Society, and the rules shall become valid unless their confirmation be refused by the President.

38. Every National Society must appoint a General Secretary, who shall be the channel of official communication between the General Council and the National Society.

39. The General Secretary of each National Society shall forward to the President, annually, not later than the first day of November, a report of the year's work of his Society, and at any time furnish any further informa-

tion the President or General Council may desire.

40. National Societies hitherto known as Sections, which have been incorporated under the name of "The . . . Section of The T.S." before the year 1908, may retain that name in their respective countries, in order not to interfere with the incorporation already existing, but shall be included under the name of National Societies, for all purposes in these Rules and Regulations.

FINANCE

41. (a) The fees payable to the General Treasury by Lodges not comprised within the limits of any National Society are as follows: for Charter, £1; for each Diploma of Membership, 5s.; for the Annual Subscription of each Fellow, 5s.; but in the case of Lodges comprised within the jurisdiction of a National Society, the Annual Subscription of each Fellow shall be the amount prescribed for Annual Subscription by the by-laws or other regulations of the National Society within which the Lodge exists; or equivalents.

(b) New members joining otherwise than at the beginning of the year shall at the time of admission pay their annual subscription *pro rata* for the remaining period of the fiscal year at the rate of £0-1-3 per quarter.

42. Fellows-at-large, resident within the territory of a National Society under the Provision of Rule 31 (a), shall pay to the General Treasury as Entrance Fee and as Annual Subscription the amounts prescribed by the by-laws or other regulation of such National Society, but not less than 5/- and £1 respectively.

Fellows-at-large, not resident within the territory of a National Society shall pay to the General Treasury an Entrance Fee of 5/- and an Annual Subscription of £1.

43. Each National Society shall pay into the General Treasury ten per cent

of the total amount received for its own National dues, and shall remit the same to the Treasurer at Adyar on or before the first day of September of the current year, and the financial year of The Society shall close on 30th September.

44. In the event of the cancellation of any Charter under Rule 36, or the dissolution of any National Society or of a Lodge, the constituent Charter of the National Society or of the Lodge granted by the President, shall, *ipso facto*, become forfeited or lapsed and all property, real or personal, including Charters, Diplomas, Seal, Records and other papers, pertaining to The Society belonging to or in the custody of such National Society or Lodge shall vest in The Society (except where the law of the country where the National Society or Lodge is situated prohibits such vesting, in which case the property shall vest as hereinafter provided) and shall be delivered up to the President, or to his nominee on its behalf and such National Society or Lodge whose Charter shall have become forfeited or lapsed shall not be entitled to continue to use the Name, Motto, or Seal of The Society.

Provided, nevertheless, that the President shall have power to revive the Charter of the National Society or the Lodge as the case may be, whose Charter shall have become so forfeited or lapsed, and to transfer the said Charter to other Lodges not being less than seven in number, or to other Fellows not being less than seven in number, as the case may be, or to such other nominees of his as in his judgment shall seem best for the interests of The Society.

In cases where the law of the country where the National Society or the Lodge, whose Charter has become forfeited or lapsed as aforesaid is situated, prohibits such vesting in The Society, the property of the Lodge shall vest in its National

Society and the property of the National Society shall vest in a local Trustee or Trustees to be appointed by the President.

To effect any transfer of property, which The Society may become entitled to under this Rule, it shall be lawful for the President to appoint an agent or nominee for the purpose of executing any necessary document or documents or for taking any steps necessary effectually to transfer the said property to The Society.

45. The financial accounts of The Society shall be audited annually by qualified Auditors who shall be appointed by the General Council at each Annual Meeting for the ensuing year.

MEETINGS

46. The Annual General Meeting or Convention of The Society shall be held in India in the month of December, at such place as shall be determined by the Executive Committee in June of each year. Lodges desirous of inviting the Convention and able to make due arrangements for its accommodation, shall send the invitation in March of the current year, with particulars of the arrangements they propose to make.

47. At least once in every seven years a World Congress of The Theosophical Society may be held out of India, at a place and date to be fixed by the General Council, but so as not to interfere with the Annual Convention in India.

48. The President shall have the power to convene special meetings of The Society at his discretion.

REVISION

49. The General Council, of their own motion or on the motion of the Executive Committee and after at least three months' notice has been given to

each member of said Council, may, by a three-fourths vote of those members who vote in person, in writing, or by proxy, make, alter or repeal the Rules and Regulations of The Society, in such manner as it may deem expedient.

50. The General Council may frame by-laws not inconsistent with these Rules and Regulations and may add to, alter, or repeal such by-laws, consistently with the said Rules and Regulations, as it may deem expedient.

METTINGS

46. The Annual General Meeting or Convention of The Society shall be held in India in the month of December at such place as shall be determined by the Executive Committee in June of each year. Lodges desirous of having the Convention and able to make due arrangements for its accommodation, shall send the invitation in March of the current year, with particulars of the arrangements they propose to make.

47. At least once in every seven years a World Congress of The Theosophical Society may be held out of India, at a place and date to be fixed by the General Council, but so as not to interfere with the Annual Convention in India.

48. The President shall have the power to convene special meetings of The Society at his discretion.

REVISION

49. The General Council, of their own motion or on the motion of the Executive Committee and after at least three months' notice has been given to

the event of the cancellation of any Charter under 36, or the dissolution of any National Society or of a Lodge, the constituent Charter of the National Society or of the Lodge granted by the President shall, if so required, become forfeited or lapsed and all property, real or personal, including Charters, Diplomas, Seal, Records and other papers, pertaining to the Society, belonging to or in the custody of such National Society or Lodge shall vest in The Society, except where the law of the country where the National Society or Lodge is situated prohibits such vesting in which case the property shall vest as hereinafter provided) and shall be delivered up to the President or to his nominee on his behalf and such National Society or Lodge whose Charter shall have become forfeited or lapsed shall not be entitled to continue to use the name, letters, or Seal of The Society.

Provided, nevertheless, that the President shall have power to revive the Charter of the National Society or the Lodge as the case may be, whose Charter shall have become forfeited or lapsed, and to transfer the said Charter to other Lodges not being less than seven in number, or to other Lodges not being less than seven in number as the case may be, or to such other Lodges as he may deem best for the interests of the Society.

In cases where the law of the country where the National Society or the Lodge whose Charter has become forfeited or lapsed is situated prohibits such vesting in The Society, the property of the Lodge shall vest in the National

GENERAL COUNCIL FOR 1949

Ex-Officio

President: MR. C. JINARĀJADĀSA.

Vice-President: MR. SIDNEY A. COOK.

Treasurer: MR. C. D. SHORES.

Recording Secretary: MISS HELEN ZAHARA.

President, World Federation of Young Theosophists: SRIMATI RUKMINI DEVI.

General Secretaries

Date of Formation	Name of Section	General Secretary	Address
1886	United States ...	Mr. James S. Perkins	"Olcott," Wheaton, Illinois
1888	England ...	Mrs. Doris Groves	50 Gloucester Place, London, W.1
1891	India ...	Sjt. Rohit Mehta	Theosophical Society, Benares City
1895	Australia ...	Mr. J. L. Davidge	29 Bligh Street, Sydney, N.S.W.
1895	Sweden ...	Herr Curt Berg	Ostermalmsgatan 12, Stockholm
1896	New Zealand ...	Miss Emma Hunt	10 Belvedere St., Epsom, Auckland, S.E. 3
1897	Netherlands ...	Professor J. N. van der Ley	Amsteldijk 76, Amsterdam Z.
1899	France ...	Dr. Paul Thorin	4 Square Rapp, Paris VII
1902	Italy ...	Dr. Giuseppe Gasco	Casella Postale 85, Savona
1902	Germany ...	Direktor Martin Boyken	Rotbuchenstieg 40, (24a) Hamburg 39
1905	Cuba ...	Señor Armando Alfonso Ledón (acting)	Apartado No. 365, Habana
1907	Hungary ...	Selevér Flora úrno	Báró Lipthay-utca 9, Budapest II
1907	Finland ...	Herr Hugo Valvanne	Vironkatu 7 C, Helsinki
1908	Russia ...	...	...
1909	Czechoslovakia * ...	Pan Václav Cimetr	Praha—Sporilov 1114
1909	Southern Africa ...	Mrs. Eleanor Stakesby-Lewis	Box 863, Johannesburg
1910	Scotland ...	Edward Gall, Esq.	28 Great King Street, Edinburgh
1910	Switzerland ...	Mademoiselle J. Roget	Rue Carteret 6, Geneva
1911	Belgium ...	Mademoiselle Serge Brisy	37 Rue J. B. Meunier, Bruxelles
1912	Indonesia ...	J. A. H. van Leeuwen (acting)	Bandastraat 9, Bandoeng, Java
1912	Burma ...	U. Po Lat	No. 102, 49th Street, Rangoon
1912	Austria ...	Herr F. Schleifer	Bürgergasse 22, 4 Stg. 18, Vienna X
1913	Norway ...	Herr Ernst Nielsen	Oscarsgt. 11, I, Oslo
1918	Egypt ...	...	...
1918	Denmark ...	Herr J. H. Möller	Strandvejen 130a, Aarhus
1919	Eire ...	Mrs. Alice Law	14 South Frederick St., Dublin
1919	Mexico ...	Señor Adolfo de la Peña Gil	Iturbide 28, Mexico D. F.
1919	Canada ...	Lt.-Col. E.L. Thomson, D.S.O.	52 Isabella Street, Toronto 5, Ont.
1920	Argentina ...	Señor José M. Olivares	Sarmiento 2478, Buenos Aires

* Presidential Agency. Presidential Agents are not members of the General Council.

Date of Formation	Name of Section	General Secretary	Address
1920	Chile	... Señor Juan Armengolli	... Casilla 3603, Santiago de Chile
1920	Brazil	... Tenente Armando Sales	... Rua Sao Bento 38, 1° andar, Sao Paulo
1920	Bulgaria	...	...
1921	Iceland	... Greta Fells	... Ingolfsstr. 22, Reykjavik
1921	Spain	...	...
1921	Portugal	... Dr. Delio Nobre Santos	... Rua Passos Manuel, No. 20-cave Lisbon
1922	Wales	... Miss E. Claudia Owen	... 10 Park Place, Cardiff
1923	Poland	...	...
1925	Uruguay	... Señor Luis Sarthou	... Palacio Diaz, 18 de Julio 1333, Montevideo
1925	Puerto Rico	... Señor A. J. Plard	... Apartado No. 3, San Juan
1925	Rumania	...	...
1925	Yugoslavia	...	...
1926	Ceylon *	... N. K. Choksy, Esq., K. C.	... Roshanara, 54 Turret Road, Colombo
1928	Greece	... Monsieur Kimon Priniris	... 3 rd September Str., No. 56B III Floor Athens
1929	Central America	... Señor José B. Acuña	... P. O. Box 797, San José, Costa Rica
1929	Paraguay	...	...
1929	Peru	... Señor Jorge Torres Ugarriza	... Apartado No. 2718, Lima
1933	Philippines	... Mr. Domingo C. Argente	... 89 Havana, Sta. Ana, Manila
1937	Colombia	... Señor Ramón Martínez	... Apartado No. 539, Bogotá
1947	British E. Africa	... Mr. Dwarkadas Morarji Shah	... P. O. Box 142, Zanzibar
1948	Pakistan *	... Jamshed Nusserwanji, Esq.	... P. O. Box 271, Karachi
1948	Malaya and Siam *	... Mrs. Hilda B. Moorhead	... P. O. Box 752, Singapore
1949	Northern Ireland *	... Dr. Hugh Shearman	... 18 Brookville Avenue, Belfast

Additional Members

M.R.RY. DEWAN BAHADUR RAJADHARMA PRAVINA K. S. CHANDRASEKHARA AIYAR, "Chandravilas", Bull Temple Road, Basavangudi, Bangalore (for 1947, 1948 and 1949).

MR. JAMSHED NUSSEERWANJI, Machimiani Road, Karachi (for 1947, 1948 and 1949).

MR. R. M. ALPAIWALLA, 177 Foras Road, Near Grant Road Station, Bombay 7 (for 1947, 1948 and 1949).

MR. J. E. VAN DISSEL, Voorteweg 40, Eindhoven, Holland (for 1948, 1949 and 1950).

MRS. JOSEPHINE RANSOM, 30 Oakeshott Avenue, Highgate, London, N. 6, England (for 1948, 1949 and 1950).

DR. G. SRINIVASA MURTI, Director, Adyar Library, the Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 20 (for 1947, 1948 and 1949).

MR. N. SRI RAM, the Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 20, (for 1947, 1948 and 1949).

MR. H. S. L. POLAK, 49 Earls Ave., The Leas, Folkestone, England (for 1947, 1948 and 1949).

MR. J. E. VAN DER STOK, Englaan 16, Wageningen, Netherlands (for 1947, 1948 and 1949).

* Presidential Agency. Presidential Agents are not members of the General Council.

MINUTES

*Of Meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society,
held in the Recording Secretary's Office, T.S., Adyar, on
Friday, 24th December, 1948, at 2 p.m.*

First Session

PRESENT :

Mr. C. Jinarājadāsa	... President (in the Chair).
Mr. Sidney A. Cook	... Vice-President.
Mr. C. D. Shores	... Treasurer.
Miss Helen Zahara	... Recording Secretary.
Srimati Rukmini Devi	... President, World Federation of Young Theosophists, and proxy for the General Secretaries of the T. S. in Belgium, Cuba and Hungary.
Mrs. Doris Groves	... General Secretary, the T.S. in England.
Mr. Rohit Mehta	... General Secretary, the T.S. in India.
Mr. R. M. Alpaiwalla	... Additional Member.
Mr. N. Sri Ram	... Additional Member
Dr. G. Srinivasa Murti	... Additional Member

1. *Confirmation of Minutes.*—The Minutes of the meetings held on 25th December, 1947 and 31st December, 1947, having been circulated to the members of the General Council, were taken as read and were adopted and signed.

2. *Matters arising out of Minutes :*

(a) *Faithful Service Fund—Question of Insurance for workers.*—The Treasurer's comments on the question of insurance for workers to provide for their old age were received as follows :

"To put the Faithful Service Fund on an insurance basis would be equivalent to buying annuities for old workers at Insurance Company rates. On examination this proves to be much too costly and would require a large immediate outlay, far beyond the amount now in the Fund. It is therefore concluded that the Fund must be continued as at present with periodical allocations from current revenue, supplemented with special donations given for the purpose. It is sound in principle that the Fund should be maintained on this basis with the annual cost considered as a current expense."

The Council accepted the recommendation* of the Treasurer that the insurance scheme is not practicable, and that the Fund be continued as at present.

(b) i. *Elimination of Rule 36 (b) reading as follows :*

"Any National Society or any Lodge, whether belonging to a National Society or not, may, by a two-thirds majority of the members constituting the same withdraw from The Theosophical Society".

The Resolution to eliminate Rule 36 (b) having obtained the majority of votes was declared passed, the result of voting being as follows :

In favour	...	38
Against	...	Nil

ii. *Amendment to Rule 44.*—This matter was postponed until the second session of the General Council owing to certain questions raised by Mr. R. M. Alpaiwalla. A committee consisting of the Vice-President, Mr. R. M. Alpaiwalla, Mr. N. Sri Ram and the Recording Secretary was appointed to discuss the points raised and report to the next session. (For details of amendment see Minutes of second session.)

(c) *Amendment to Rule 30 in the Constitution of the Theosophical Society reading as follows :*

"*Transfers.* In the case of countries adjacent to each other, while new members should join the National Section of the Country in which they are residing, if, at a later date, they move to reside in an adjacent Country, they may, if they so desire, retain their membership of The Theosophical Society through the National Section of which they are already members."

The Recording Secretary reported that the General Secretary of the Welsh Section had advised that the Welsh National Council at its meeting held on September 30, 1948, had decided to withdraw the amendment.

3. *Amendment to Rule 42 (a) in the Constitution of the Theosophical Society.*—The amendment having obtained the majority of votes was declared passed as follows :

"Fellows-at-large, resident within the territory of a National Society under the Provision of Rule 31 (a), shall pay to the General Treasury as Entrance Fee and as Annual Subscription the amounts prescribed by the by-laws or other regulations of such National Society, but not less than 5/- and £1 respectively.

"Fellows-at-large, not resident within the territory of a National Society shall pay to the General Treasury an Entrance Fee of 5/- and an Annual Subscription of £1."

In favour	...	38
Against	...	Nil

A suggestion received from the General Secretary of the American Section to add "at Adyar" after the words "General Treasury", or that the words "International Treasury" be substituted instead of "General Treasury" was not accepted. It was pointed out that if the words be changed in this one clause

they would have to be changed by votes from all the members of the General Council in every clause where the phrase "General Treasury" occurs in the Constitution and it was felt this was unnecessary as the Constitution relates to the International Society and therefore the term "General Treasury" would be understood as applying to the International Society and its Headquarters.

4. *Elimination of Rule 42 (b) in the Constitution of the Theosophical Society reading as follows :*

"Every Fellow-at-large is free to commute at any time his Annual dues to Headquarters for a sum of not less than £20 to be paid to the General Treasury."

The Resolution to eliminate Rule 42 (b), having obtained the majority of votes was declared passed, the result of voting being as follows :

In favour	...	37
Against	...	1

5. *The Pension of the Niece of H. P. Blavatsky.*—The General Council decided to continue the pension to the niece of H. P. Blavatsky for 1949, amounting to £60.

6. *The Treasurer's Report for 1947-48.*—The audited financial statements of the Society for the official year ended 30th September, 1948, presented by the Hon. Treasurer with his report appended thereto and recommended by the Executive Committee for adoption, were given consideration and approved.

The General Council approved the proposal that the accounts in future be circulated in a condensed form with less details of small funds and other items, so that they would be simpler to read and understand.

The Council then adjourned to meet on 30th December, 1948 at 2 p.m.

MINUTES

*Of Meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society,
held in the Recording Secretary's Office, T.S., Adyar, on
Thursday, 30th December, 1948, at 2 p.m.*

Second Session

PRESENT :

Mr. C. Jinarājadāsa	... President (in the Chair).
Mr. Sidney A. Cook	... Vice-President.
Mr. C. D. Shores	... Treasurer.
Miss Helen Zahara	... Recording Secretary.
Srimati Rukmini Devi	... President, World Federation of Young Theosophists and proxy for the General Secretaries of the T.S. in Belgium, Cuba and Hungary.

Mrs. Doris Groves	...	<i>General Secretary, the T.S. in England.</i>
Mr. Rohit Mehta	...	<i>General Secretary, the T.S. in India.</i>
Mr. R. M. Alpaiwalla	...	<i>Additional Member.</i>
Mr. N. Sri Ram	...	<i>Additional Member.</i>
Dr. G. Srinivasa Murthi	...	<i>Additional Member.</i>

7. *Amendment to Rule 44.*—The Vice-President reported that the small Committee appointed had met since the previous session and after discussion Mr. Alpaiwalla had agreed that the amendment as circulated would be satisfactory and he did not wish to press further for alteration. The Resolution was then declared passed as follows :

"In the event of the cancellation of any Charter under Rule 36, or the dissolution of any National Society or of a Lodge, the constituent Charter of the National Society or of the Lodge granted by the President, shall, *ipso facto*, become forfeited or lapsed and all property, real or personal, including Charters, Diplomas, Seal, Records and other papers, pertaining to The Society belonging to or in the custody of such National Society or Lodge shall vest in The Society (except where the law of the country where the National Society or Lodge is situated prohibits such vesting, in which case the property shall vest as hereinafter provided) and shall be delivered up to the President, or to his nominee on its behalf and such National Society or Lodge whose Charter shall have become forfeited or lapsed shall not be entitled to continue to use the Name, Motto, or Seal of The Society.

"Provided, nevertheless, that the President shall have power to revive the Charter of the National Society or the Lodge as the case may be, whose Charter shall have become so forfeited or lapsed, and to transfer the said Charter to other Lodges not being less than seven in number, or to other Fellows not being less than seven in number, as the case may be, or to such other nominees of his as in his judgment shall seem best for the interests of The Society.

"In cases where the law of the country where the National Society or the Lodge, whose Charter has become forfeited or lapsed as aforesaid is situated, prohibits such vesting in The Society, the property of the Lodge shall vest in its National Society and the property of the National Society shall vest in a local Trustee or Trustees to be appointed by the President.

"To effect any transfer of property, which The Society may become entitled to under this Rule, it shall be lawful for the President to appoint an agent or nominee for the purpose of executing any necessary document or documents or for taking any steps necessary effectually to transfer the said property to The Society."

In Favour	...	39
Against	...	Nil

8. *The Budget for 1948-49.*—The Budget estimates for the year ending 30th September, 1949, passed by the Executive Committee at their meeting on 24th December, 1948, were adopted as detailed hereunder :

THE T. S. HEADQUARTERS, ADYAR, BUDGET FOR 1948-49

EXPENDITURE	Budget for 1947-'48	Actuals for 1947-'48	Budget for 1948-'49	INCOME	Budget for 1947-'48	Actuals for 1947-'48	Budget for 1948-'49
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Establishment—Salaries and				Rent Income ...	40,000	54,326	50,000
Wages ...	16,500	16,809	17,100	Conservancy Charges ...	1,000	1,239	1,270
Repairs and Renewals ...	30,000	30,276	30,000	Fees and Dues ...	20,000	17,681	18,000
Garden Expenses ...	26,500	29,989	26,500	Garden Income ...	19,500	23,647	19,500
Lighting and Water ...	2,500	2,411	3,500	Interest (Gross) ...	28,000	28,239	28,000
Miscellaneous ...	3,500	3,884	4,000	Administration Charges ...	7,130	7,130	7,130
Watch and Ward ...	9,760	9,852	12,000	Donations ...		43,340	
Postages, Telegrams and						1,75,602	
Telephone ...	2,500	2,467	2,500	Special Departments :			
Printing and Stationery ...	2,000	3,515	3,500	Vasanta Press ...	90,000	86,177	89,000
Publications to General				Engineering Depart-			
Secretaries ...	900	614	900	ment ...	83,550	1,10,296	1,01,150
Sanitation Expenses ...	3,760	3,379	4,250	Laundry ...	7,500	8,409	8,000
Taxes Account ...	11,000	12,852	11,000	Deficit to be made good			
Pensions ...	100	62	100	by Donations	32,090		29,050
Interest on Funds and							
Accounts ...	12,000	9,875	11,000				
Donations to various Funds							
and Accounts ...		17,000					
Convention Travelling							
Expenses ...	1,000	946					
Convention 1948 ...			2,000				
Contributions :							
Adyar Library ...	5,000	5,000	5,000				
President's Travelling							
Fund ...	6,600	6,600	3,300				
Dispensary ...	2,800	2,048	2,600				
Museum and Archives ...	150	739	500				
Depreciation : ..	8,000	12,371	8,000				
Bhojanasala deficit ...	650	583	700				
Leadbeater Chambers							
deficit ...	2,500	5,578	4,500				
Laundry Deficit ...		812					
		1,77,662					
Special Departments :							
Vasanta Press ...	90,000	84,368	89,000				
Engineering Department...	83,550	1,09,537	1,01,150				
Laundry ...	7,500	8,409	8,000				
Surplus ...		508					
	3,28,770	3,80,484	3,51,100		3,28,770	3,80,484	3,51,100

For The Theosophical Society,

C. D. SHORES,

Hony. Treasurer.

It was decided that the resolution of the General Council on December 25, 1942, that a minimum of £500 be placed to the President's Travelling Fund be modified in view of the substantial balance of Rs. 44,160-13-8. The allocation of Rs. 3,300 (£250) proposed by the Treasurer was approved.

9. *The appointment of Auditors for 1948-49.*—It was resolved that Messrs. V. Soundararajan & Co., Registered Accountants, be reappointed Auditors for the year 1948-49 on a remuneration of Rs. 800/- per annum and on the same terms and conditions as in previous years.

10. *The appointment of the Executive Committee for 1949.*—The following were appointed :

President	} Ex-Officio
Vice-President	
Treasurer	
Recording Secretary	
Dr. Srinivasa Murti	
Srimati Rukmini Devi	
Mrs. Bhagirathi Sri Ram	
Mr. N. Sri Ram	
Mr K. Srinivasa Iyengar	

11. *Any other Business :*

(a) *To empower the Executive Committee to deal with the Society's properties in Urur, adjacent to Headquarters.*—The Resolution empowering the Executive Committee to deal with the Society's properties in Urur having received the required majority of three-fourths votes of the General Council was declared passed, the result of the voting being as follows :

In favour	... 43
Against	... Nil

(b) *The right of a closed group to function in a Section without the right of the General Secretary or any member to attend its meetings.*—The President referred to correspondence received from the General Secretary of the Belgian Section asking for the direction of the General Council in connection with a group in Brussels, the meetings of which the General Secretary is not permitted to attend. The question is asked whether in the event of this group applying for a Charter as a Lodge, should it be granted? The opinion of the General Council is that it is not possible for any Lodge to exclude from attendance the General Secretary, who is the Executive Officer of the Section and has the right to enquire into the workings of all Lodges and to be present at their meetings. Further, when new members wish to join a Lodge they must apply on the proper application form of the National Society which must be signed by the General Secretary, and it is the General Secretary who issues the Diploma. A Lodge to be chartered must have seven members and the application for the Charter must be signed by each founding member. The Charter is issued by the General Secretary on behalf of the President of the Society. It is the duty of the General Secretary to report on the work of Lodges. There is no objection to a Lodge meeting as a private body for

certain special studies but it is necessary for the General Secretary to see that these studies do not contravene the three Objects of the Society.

(c) *Next World Congress.*—An invitation was received from the Australian Section to hold the next Congress in Australia. The suggested time is Easter 1951. The Council decided that this is a matter which should be considered by all Sections but the opinion was expressed that 1951 is too near to 1950 when there is to be a special Convention in Adyar to celebrate the 75th year of the Society.

(d) *Letter to the President from Strasbourg Lodge, France.*—The President presented to the General Council a letter received by him from the Strasbourg Lodge, France, regarding a dispute between the Lodge and Professor Marcault. The letter dealt with a legacy of a large sum by the President of the Lodge, the late Madame North-Siegfried. The President explained that he earlier had had correspondence on the matter with a member of the French Section, who spoke on behalf of the Lodge, but that the letter received from the Strasbourg Lodge was the first direct from the Lodge. As the dispute has been officially taken note of by the National Convention of the French Section, which has endorsed by a large majority the action of the Executive Committee of the Section in the matter, the General Council feels that the issue is closed completely, and that the Council has no cause to interfere in the dispute, as no principles concerning Brotherhood are involved, but only the dispositions of property under the terms of a Will.

The meeting closed at 3 p.m.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS, 1948

National Sections (Active) ...	40					No. of Lodges	Active Members
Presidential Agencies ...	3						
Total Lodges ...	1,303						
Total Membership :							
1947 ...	31,636						
1948 ...	32,746						
Increase ...	1,110						
	No. of Lodges	Active Members					
United States ...	142	4,031	Ireland ...	8	111		
England ...	115	3,691	Mexico ...	24	378		
India ...	432	7,364	Canada ...	14	365		
Australia ...	15	1,016	Argentina ...	66	1,315		
Sweden ...	18	354	Chile ...	11	176		
New Zealand ...	15	926	Brazil ...	29	750		
Netherlands ...	36	1,832	Bulgaria ...	—	—		
France ...	40	2,236	Iceland ...	4	209		
Italy ...	34	746	Spain ...	—	—		
Germany ...	20	556	Portugal ...	10	195		
Cuba ...	28	592	Wales ...	8	170		
Hungary ...	7	191	Poland ...	—	—		
Finland ...	23	669	Uruguay ...	6	69		
Russia ...	—	—	Puerto Rico ...	7	86		
Czechoslovakia ...	2	50	Rumania ...	—	—		
Southern Africa ...	7	567	Yugoslavia ...	12	291 (1947)		
Scotland ...	24	395	Ceylon ...	1	43		
Switzerland ...	17	332	Greece ...	7	255		
Belgium ...	11	328	Central America ...	12	169 (1947)		
Indonesia ...	4	165	Paraguay ...	—	—		
Burma ...	4	124	Peru ...	11	160 (1947)		
Austria ...	13	441	Philippines ...	11	224		
Norway ...	8	127	Colombia ...	16	253		
Egypt ...	1	20	British East Africa... ..	7	99		
Denmark ...	11	359	Canadian Federation.	6	157		
			Malaya ...	2	76		
			H.P.B. Lodge (Canada)	1	7		
			Miroku Lodge (Japan)	1	11 (1947)		
			Olcott-Blavatsky				
			(Greece)	1	46		
			Medan Lodge (Sumatra)	1	13		
			Fellows-at-Large ...	—	6		
			Total ...	1,303	32,746		

Note.—The statistics shown above do not include certain countries where members are living but from where no returns have been received since before the war. Dropped from the records during the past year are Poland—197 and Rumania—140. These totals, which up to now have been retained, were those shown on the last returns received in 1939. Despite the omission of these figures it will be seen that the total membership increased by 1,110 during the year 1948.

HELEN ZAHARA,
Recording Secretary.

